



CHAMPIONSHIP SPECIAL



Shoop!

11th June, 1988

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AWAY THE LADS

ROBSON the capped crusader



WE SIGN'EM AGAIN

Shoot!
WITH
ENGLAND

WE FE

It is easy to talk about England winning the European Championships in West Germany this month – the difficult part begins in Stuttgart on Sunday when we start our challenge against the Republic of Ireland.

And make no mistake, we've not flown out to Germany just to make up the numbers. The spirit and understanding within Bobby Robson's squad has been carefully developed during the last three or four years and we are all quietly confident of the end product doing the business here.

From England's point of view I believe it's vital that Liverpool's Peter Beardsley and John Barnes reproduce the club form that helped The Reds coast to the First Division title.

Both were very good footballers before they went to Anfield but now, playing with great players on a regular basis, they've developed into something special.

I'm sure people back home will be expecting a lot from them. From me, too, no doubt.

They'll all be watching me, but there are plenty of other England players who can get on the scoresheet, including Tony Adams (below).



EAR NO-ONE

GARY LINEKER leads the Championship battlecry

My job is to score goals, true, but I'm sure no one is foolish enough to expect me and me alone to steer England to triumph in West Germany.

One of the strengths of this side is that we're capable of scoring goals from all areas of the team. Peter Beardsley's goal ratio for England has been criticised in the past, but did you know he's now scored three goals in his last eight appearances? One of them, against the Scots at Wembley last month, was as good as you'll see over the next couple of weeks.

Then there is John Barnes, Bryan Robson, Neil Webb, Chris Waddle ... even Tony Adams has

helped himself to a couple of England goals this season.

I accept that I'm the man our opposing defenders will be giving their special treatment to. They've been dishing it out ever since I scored those six goals in Mexico and they'll be dishing it out again in Germany.

But I'm used to it now and I laugh about it really because they're hitting me when I'm not at my most dangerous outside the penalty area. It's inside the box where my strengths lie, and they can't touch me there.

My confidence is pretty high at

the moment and it's hard to believe that, after all the problems at Barcelona at the start of the season, I look back over the last few months as the most successful of my career to date.

When 1987-88 kicked-off Barcelona played poorly, I wasn't getting among the goals and Terry Venables got the sack.

But things have changed since Christmas, I ended up with 17 League goals from 35 matches - 12 in the last 17 games - to finish as joint second top goalscorer in Spain behind Real Madrid's Hugo Sanchez.

But the highlight was Barcelona's Spanish Cup win over John Toshack's Real Sociedad in March. I'd won a Second Division Championship medal with Leicester a few years back but I suppose my Spanish medal is the first big one I've won.

As I wrote earlier, it isn't going to be easy getting another one in Munich on June 25. Our Group Two opponents Holland - we meet them in Dusseldorf next Wednesday - are one of the strongest teams in the competition, and Mr Gullit is their trump card.

He's got it all ... strength, pace, skill and an eye for goal. And he's not just good at these things, he excels at them. But we don't fear Gullit. That's a journalist's word. We respect him, yes, but I bet they respect some of our players, too.

Watch out for Italy striker Gianluca Vialli, as well. He's excellent. Spain's Emilio Butragueno is a bit tasty, too.

But let's not worry about the opposition, and let's not worry too much about the loss of Terry Butcher for these Championships. It's a blow, of course, but we should look on the positive side. There's a chance now for someone to really make a name for himself at the heart of our defence in the coming weeks.

Future

And so let the Championships begin. Thankfully I'll be able to channel all my thoughts towards England's cause. There will be no speculation about my future - at least there shouldn't be because Barcelona have told me they want me to stay at the club. I've told them I am more than happy to do so.

I've not yet met my new manager Johann Cruyff but the thought of linking up with him is an exciting one. If he can't teach me anything about the game then no-one will.

It's just a shame I've not been able to get a few inside tips about the Dutch before our clash in Dusseldorf next Wednesday.



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Bobby Robson has waited four long, often agonising, years for the opportunity to see his England team crowned Kings of Europe.

Now on the eve of the European Championship Finals, he is licking his lips in anticipation of a football feast in West Germany.

"How can it be anything else?" he asks. "Look at the many fabulous players who will be on display. Every country can boast world class talent and I don't see how the tournament can fail to excite a huge audience."

Robson, nearing six years in office, clearly relishes the prospect. "In 1984 I sat and watched the closing stages in France and it was a very frustrating experience," he recalls.

"I badly wanted England to be there and I was irritated that we'd missed out. I looked around me and couldn't help thinking about what might have been."



COUNTDOWN

"I've been eager to have a crack at this tournament ever since. We're going in against the big boys in a wide open competition. Yes, we can win it but that's what they'll all be saying."

"I don't go in for wild forecasts but I'll be disappointed if we don't go through to the Semi-Finals. I'd go for Holland to accompany us from our group and Italy and West Germany to make up the numbers."

"After that it's anyone's guess. Games can be decided on a

**'We've never
anywhere lo
for draws a
won't start**

MY FINAL FOUR

- West Germany
- Holland
- Italy
- ... and England!

**8
PAGE
SPECIAL**

gone
looking
and we
now'

moment of magic, or even a mistake. They'll be tight, okay, but I also think they'll be attractive."

England launch their glory bid against Jack Charlton's unfancied Republic of Ireland side and Robson warns: "Anyone who underestimates them is taking one hell of a risk."

"Let's face it, their record speaks for itself. They've won eight on the trot and I saw them beat Poland recently. Mind you, I thought the Poles were a poor side."

"I don't want to take anything away from Eire's display but I just know that England, for example, wouldn't concede the goals that Poland lost that day. We have better defenders."

Shattering

Robson concedes the enforced absence of his defensive colossus, Terry Butcher, is a shattering blow but is quick to add: "I'm nowhere near as worried about our central defenders as other people seem to be."

"I keep reading that we have problems in this department but I can't possibly agree. I mean, we have a great defensive record. Check it out and you'll find we don't concede an average of anything like a goal per game."

The lack of a ready-made challenger for the left-back berth brings a concerned look to Robson's face. "We had it all planned, bringing Stuart Pearce

into the squad, but injury is keeping him at home," he frowns.

"I've brought in Chelsea's Tony Dorigo and he'll be good cover for our experienced Kenny Sansom."

Robson isn't interested in reflecting on his team's route through the qualifying programme. "Yes, we did well and scored a lot of goals," he acknowledges, "but it's what happens in Germany that counts now. Nothing else really matters."

With the memory of Ruud Gullit's tremendous display at Wembley in March still fresh in his mind, Robson clearly expects the Dutch to form a formidable obstacle to his own ambitions.

"On what I've seen, Holland are as good as any," he maintains. "I think they proved it at Wembley and while they have many brilliant players, Gullit is clearly the ace in their pack."

"He's the type who could set the tournament alight. He's difficult to handle because he's got the lot. You look at him and it's impossible to pinpoint a weakness. For me, Gullit ranks alongside Maradona as the best in the world."

Robson refuses to write off any country's chances but places a

question mark against the ability of Denmark and Spain to go all the way.

"The Danes still have the nucleus of their World Cup team from Mexico but I'm not sure they're physically strong enough to tackle five games in two weeks. And the same goes for the Spanish," he explains.

"I like Lerby and Laudrup and I think Elkjaer can still do a lot of damage but I must be honest and say that I don't see Denmark as likely winners."

"Spain, I feel, will have a problem. They rely so much on Butragueno and, great player that he is, I think it's asking too much of one individual."

"But every country has players they desperately want to deliver the goods. In our case, obviously, it would be great to see Gary Lineker and Peter Beardsley knocking in a few goals."

"And I'd love to see John Barnes on song. People are ramming it down my throat that he doesn't repeat his club form when he plays for England but I wonder if they've stopped to think the situation through."

'Impact'

"Let's face it, when he plays for England he's up against top-class international full-backs. It isn't like that in the First Division, is it? There will be no novices in West Germany but we all know what John is capable of and I know he's determined to make an impact over there."

The Russian trio of Bessanov, Protasov and Zavarov, the exciting Italian youngster Vialli, newcomer Klinsmann of West Germany ... just some of the players Robson considers could emerge as heroes.

"Looking back to France in 1984 it was a tournament where the teams who were bold reaped the rewards, while those who were negative fell by the wayside," he remembers.

"I hope it's the same this time. I think the overall line-up is stronger this time, so I'm expecting some great football. There's no out-and-out favourite; it's wide open."

"Teams will have to be solid defensively for they'll be severely punished. But I don't mean they'll have to play it tight to get anywhere. England, for example, have never gone anywhere looking for a draw and we won't start now. We'll be positive, as we always are."

BY ENGLAND MANAGER Bobby Robson

"Holland are as good as anyone," says Robson. But they still couldn't handle Gary Lineker when they visited Wembley last March (below).



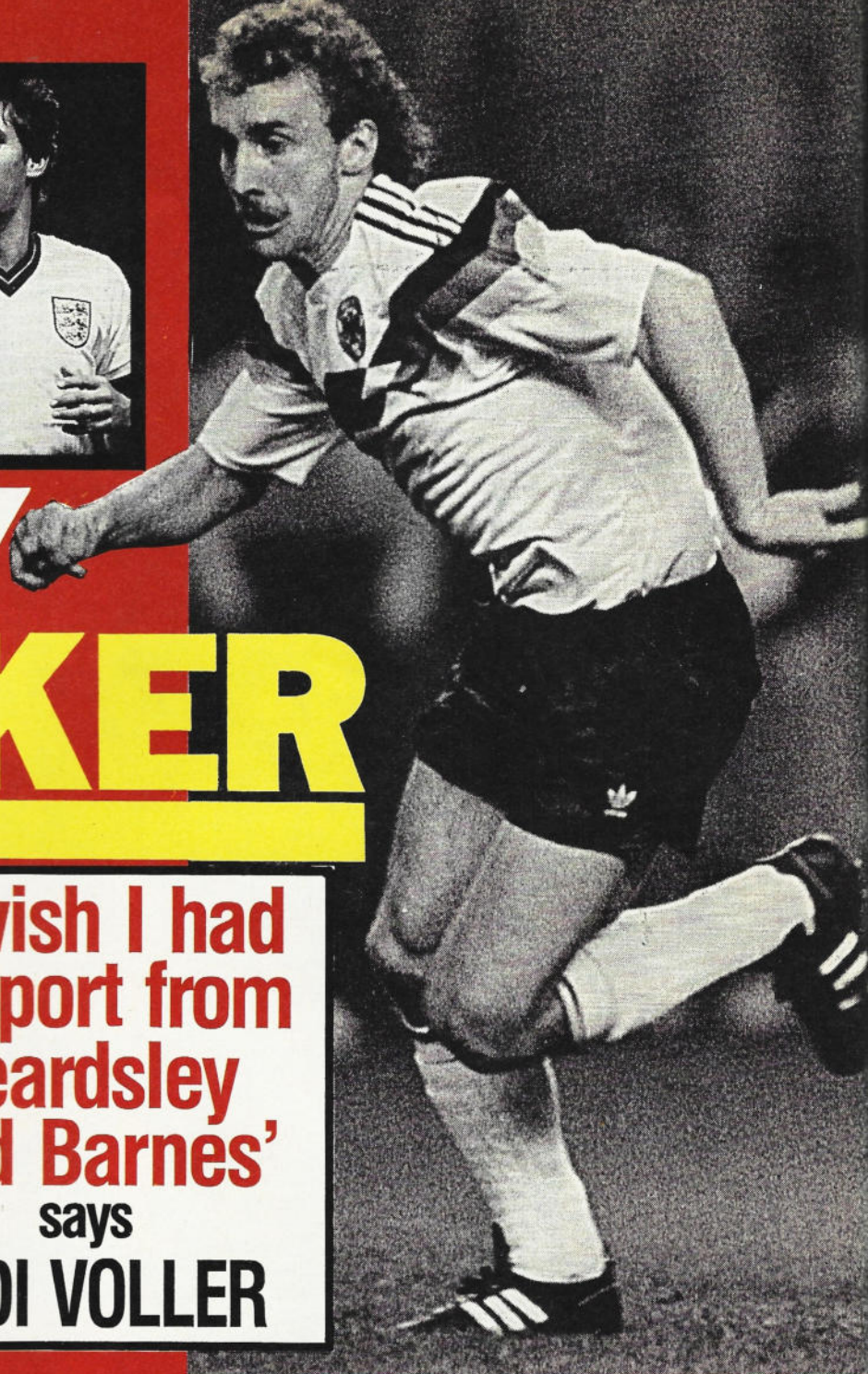
**The men to
conquer
Europe
see over**

As West Germany prepare to launch the European Championships in Dusseldorf this Friday, ace striker Rudi Voller makes a startling admission.

HE IS JEALOUS OF GARY LINEKER!

Voller, the 28-year-old hit man currently plying his trade in Italy with AS Roma, was the architect of England's downfall when the two nations met in a friendly international last September.

Although he didn't score in that 3-1 West German win in Dusseldorf, the way he pulled England's defence out of position



LUCKY LINEKER

set alarm bells ringing back home.

Now Voller is widely tipped to lead the scoring charts in the forthcoming Championships, but reveals: "I would be more confident of achieving that if I had John Barnes and Peter Beardsley playing alongside me."

Like Ian Rush, Voller has just completed an unhappy first season in Italian football. He continues: "I can understand why Gary Lineker scores so many goals for England when I look at the service he enjoys from Barnes and Beardsley."

"I have seen Liverpool on TV a number of times and been very impressed. They are a team in superb condition. Every department works so hard for each other."

"It is a pity that Liverpool cannot play in Europe. It would be great to play against them."

'Respect'

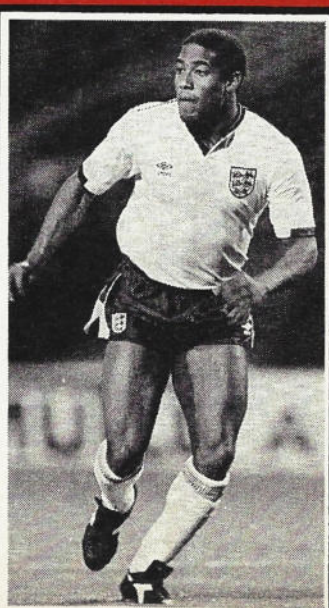
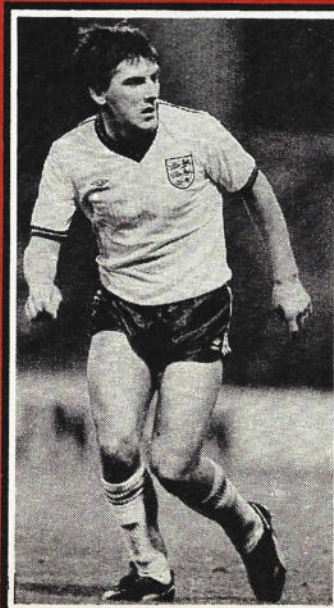
"I have enormous respect for Beardsley and Barnes in particular. My colleagues in the West German team are excellent players, but Beardsley and Barnes are world class."

Instead, Voller will rely on Pierre Littbarski and Jurgen Klinsmann to provide his ammunition after his usual strike partner, Klaus Allofs, withdrew from the West German squad through injury.

"I think we will win the Championships, but it is not going to be easy because all the world's best teams are competing," he continues.

"I have struggled to adjust to the style of Italian football and missing three months of the season with a groin strain left me

'I wish I had support from Beardsley and Barnes'
says
RUDI VOLLER



short of pace.

"But I am back in full training and have achieved peak fitness again. I have enough confidence in my ability to believe I can do well in these Championships."

West Germany's recent form has hardly justified their installation as Championship favourites, but Voller warns: "Nobody fancied our chances in the 1986 World Cup Finals, but we managed to reach the Final."

"Maybe we lack imagination, but even so we still get results."

"Our defeat of England last September was our best performance of the season, but I don't think it will be quite so easy if we meet again in these Championships."

"England are very similar to West Germany in many ways and will be one of the most difficult teams in the tournament to overcome."



The FACTS ENGLAND

ROBSON'S SQUAD

NAME CLUB AGE CAPS

Goalkeepers

Peter Shilton	Derby	38	98
Chris Woods	Rangers	28	12

Defenders

Tony Adams	Arsenal	21	11
Viv Anderson	Man. United	31	30
Tony Dorigo	Chelsea	22	0
Kenny Sansom	Arsenal	29	83
Gary Stevens	Everton	25	23
Dave Watson	Everton	26	11
Mark Wright	Derby	24	20

Midfielders

Glenn Hoddle	Monaco	30	49
Steve McMahon	Liverpool	26	3
Peter Reid	Everton	31	13
Bryan Robson	Man. United	31	66
Trevor Steven	Everton	24	22
Neil Webb	Nottm. Forest	24	7

Strikers

John Barnes	Liverpool	24	39
Peter Beardsley	Liverpool	27	24
Mark Hateley	Monaco	26	27
Gary Lineker	Barcelona	27	32
Chris Waddle	Tottenham	27	34

HOW THEY GOT THERE

15.10.86
12.11.86
1.4.87
29.4.87
14.10.87
11.11.87

GROUP FOUR

N. Ireland	(h)	3-0
Yugoslavia	(h)	2-0
N. Ireland	(a)	2-0
Turkey	(a)	0-0
Turkey	(h)	8-0
Yugoslavia	(a)	4-1



Bryan Robson cracks England's third in the vital win in Yugoslavia.

Kenny Sansom appeared in all England's qualifying matches.



FINAL TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	6	5	1	0	19	11	11
Yugoslavia	6	4	0	2	13	9	8
N. Ireland	6	1	1	4	2	10	3
Turkey	6	0	2	4	2	16	2

APPEARANCES: 6 - Lineker, Sansom; 5 - Beardsley, Butcher, Robson; 4 - Anderson, Hoddle, Hodge, Shilton, Waddle; 3 - Adams, Barnes, Mabbutt, Steven, Woods; 2 - Stevens, Webb, Wright; 1 - Allen, Cottee, Hateley, Regis, Reid, Watson, Wilkins.

GOALSCORERS: 5 - Lineker; 3 - Barnes, Robson; 2 - Beardsley, Waddle; 1 - Adams, Anderson, Mabbutt, Webb.

FIXTURES

GROUP TWO

June 12 Rep of Ireland (Stuttgart 2.30)
June 15 Holland (Dusseldorf 4.15)
June 18 USSR (Frankfurt 2.30)

CHAMPIONSHIP RECORD

1968 Semi-Finalists
1980 Last Eight

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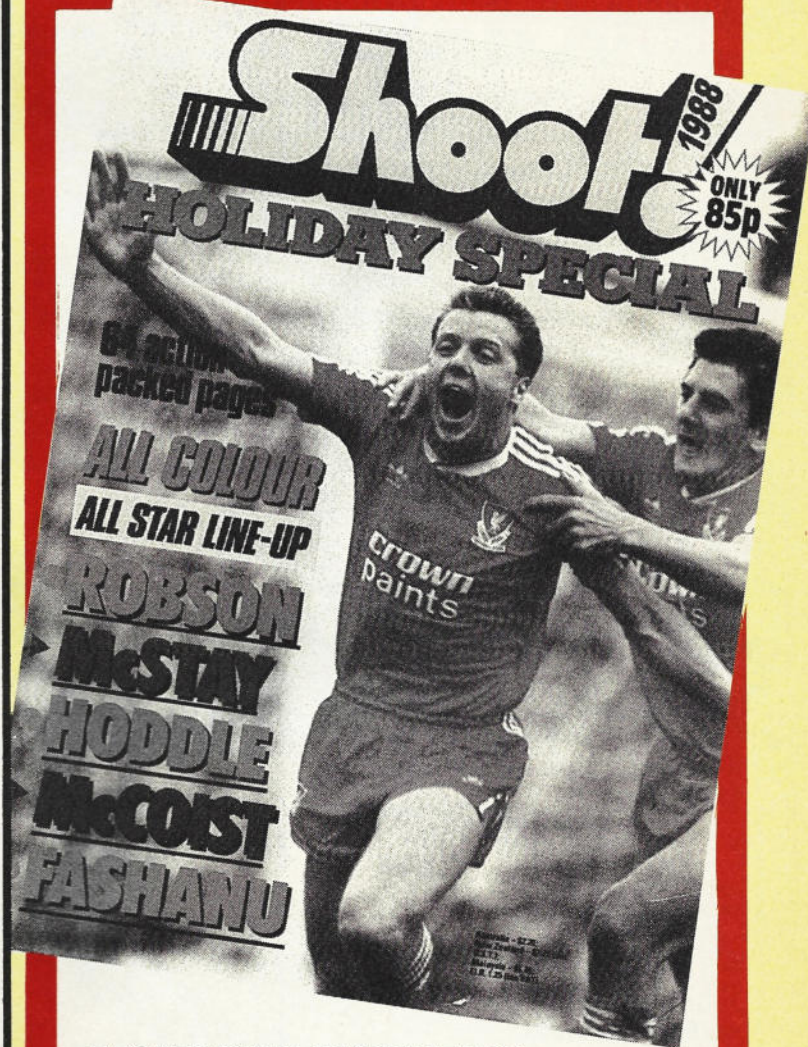
England

again!

SHOOT Editor
Peter Stewart
joins our
columnists and
Bobby Robson to
clinch the super
deal.



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**On The
SPOT**

BRYAN RO

Born Chester-Le-Street, County Durham on January 11, 1957. An England Youth cap, he turned professional with West Bromwich Albion in 1975 and stayed six years at The Hawthorns before following Ron Atkinson to Manchester United for a British record transfer fee of £1.5 million. Won his first full England cap against the Republic of Ireland in February, 1980 and took over the captaincy shortly after Bobby Robson's appointment as manager in 1982. Has now won 66 caps.

Is this current England team as good as any you've played in?

It's very difficult to make comparisons. All I can say is that the manner in which we qualified for these Championships has filled me with confidence. I certainly feel we can achieve more than any other England team I've been part of.

Are they good enough to win the Championships?

Yes. We have as many top class individuals as any of the other Finalists and if they all hit peak form at the right time then we have an excellent chance.

Is there any chance of you playing in defence as Terry Butcher's replacement during the Finals?

No. It's too late to start trying out a sweeper system. Maybe that is something for the future, but at the moment I still believe I am a better player in midfield.

What is the greatest strength of this England team?

Our fitness and all-round team work. We have the added bonus of a world class goalscorer in Gary Lineker and that is vital for any major Championship Finals. And we've plenty of top class talent like Beardsley, Barnes and Shilton.

What about the weaknesses?

We don't really have any. I know our defence have taken a bit of stick lately, and against the very good one-touch passing of the top Continental teams they'll obviously have to be on their toes. But look at our defensive record over the years. It's excellent.

Do you like the idea of a combined British international team?

Not really. I don't think there is anything wrong with the current arrangement.

If you could select any one of your Championship opponents for inclusion in the England squad, which player would you choose?

I'd have to go for Holland's Ruud Gullit. He's strong, quick and has an eye for goal. He'll obviously be one of the stars of these Championships.

After his performance in Holland's 2-2 draw at Wembley in March, will England change their tactics to deal with Gullit?

That would be telling. But in spite of my answer to the previous question, I didn't think he was as brilliant as everyone claimed. Obviously he'll have to be watched very closely and maybe someone will be assigned to keep him quiet throughout the match. But Holland impressed me as a very good all-round team and it would be a mistake to concentrate too much on one man.

Who is your room-mate out in Germany?

My Manchester United colleague Viv Anderson. I haven't really had a regular room-mate since Ray Wilkins' absence from the international team. Viv usually rooms with Terry Butcher. But we're both among the quieter members of the squad, so we're well suited.

Do you have any superstitions?

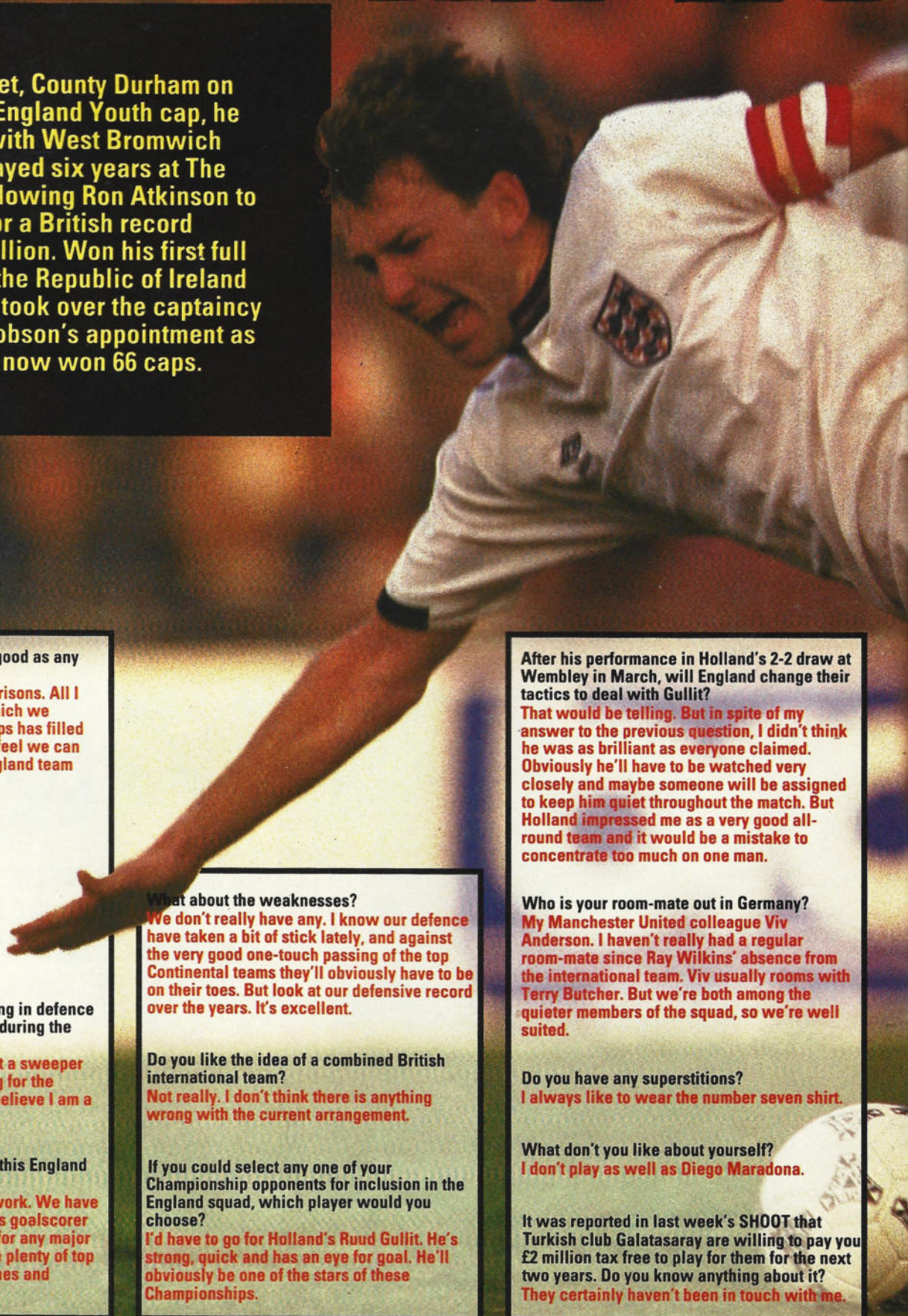
I always like to wear the number seven shirt.

What don't you like about yourself?

I don't play as well as Diego Maradona.

It was reported in last week's SHOOT that Turkish club Galatasaray are willing to pay you £2 million tax free to play for them for the next two years. Do you know anything about it?

They certainly haven't been in touch with me.



ROBSON Man United & England



I seem to have been connected with just about every club in the world at some stage in my career, so I take all these reports with a massive pinch of salt nowadays. I am under contract to Manchester United for another three years and fully intend to honour that agreement.

What sort of things do you like to do on your day off?

I'm a big horse racing fan, and whenever United aren't training I go with a couple of mates to Haydock Park, which is the nearest course to my home. I've got to know quite a lot of the jockeys and trainers over the years, but they never give me any decent tips.

When the England squad made their record recently, were you one of the better singers?

No. My voice is definitely not my strength. Glenn Hoddle is our star vocalist. But at least I'm not as bad as Peter Reid and Steve McMahon. They were told to stand as far away from the microphone as possible.

Are you a smart dresser?

When I'm at home I usually lounge around in

casual jeans and a T-shirt. But I don't mind wearing a suit and tie when the occasion demands and I'm always smartly turned out for matches or business dates.

What are your favourite TV programmes?

The only programme I make a point of watching is Cheers. Apart from that, I'll watch the sports programmes if they're on.

What is the one video in your collection which you'd never tape over?

I was the subject of This Is Your Life about three years ago and that tape is still very precious to me.

Which of your 66 games for England do you consider your best performance?

The game against France at the start of our 1982 World Cup campaign in Spain. We won 3-1 and I scored twice, including the quickest goal in World Cup history.

Which England game was your most disappointing?

The goalless draw with West Germany in the same World Cup. If we'd won that game I'm convinced we would have gone on to win the trophy.

Which England goal gave you most satisfaction?

A right foot volley against the East Germans at Wembley in 1984. It was one of those shots which you catch just perfectly.

Finally, Bryan, the last World Cup was a personal disaster for you. Do these Championships present a chance for you to show the rest of the world the real Bryan Robson?

Not really. The Championships are about teams, not individuals. I will just go out and enjoy myself and do everything I can to help England to success. I consider myself very fortunate to have played in two World Cup Final tournaments. These are my first European Championships and it's important I make the most of them.

I'LL BE BA

Liam Brady flew to West Germany this week as a non-playing member of Jack Charlton's Republic of Ireland party promising: "My international career isn't over yet."

The 32-year-old midfielder is determined to add to his 67 caps even though the combination of a European Championship ban and a serious knee injury has robbed him of the chance to appear in the Finals of a major competition for the first time.

But he vows: "I've no intention of losing my international place for good."

"My priority now is to be fit to resume pre-season training with West Ham next month and hopefully win back my place in the Republic side for the World

Cup qualifier against Northern Ireland in September."

Brady's hope of at least one Championship outing, against Holland in the Republic's final Group Two qualifying match, was wrecked at the end of February when he was injured in a League game against Derby.

He hoped to make his comeback late last month in Frank Stapleton's testimonial match in Dublin, but the knee swelled up again and Brady knew that was the end of his dream.



Special

"Jack Charlton asked me to delay a decision until the last possible moment but I knew it was pointless. Obviously I was disappointed, but at the same time relieved that all the speculation about my fitness ended."

Brady has nevertheless been invited over to West Germany, where he hopes to "lend my experience to the lads in any way I can."

And he adds: "It is very important that we don't lose the opening game against England in

Stuttgart on Sunday afternoon. It should be a very tight affair in any case because the players from both sides know each other so well."

"And if we can avoid defeat in the first game we can keep up the interest through the first seven days and hopefully during the second week, too."

Brady insists that the Republic's chances won't be unduly affected by his absence, and that of Mark Lawrenson, whose playing career ended prematurely because of injury last season.

'Missed'

"We have been unfortunate with injuries," he adds, "but Jack has developed a system now whereby everybody in the team knows what is required of them. I don't think Mark or myself will be badly missed."

"After all the years of near misses it's a great honour for my country to qualify for the Finals of a major tournament, and you can be sure that the players involved won't want to waste this opportunity."

"We're not in West Germany to make up the numbers, as I think our recent record of eight successive wins will prove."

Tony's award

Liam Brady's heartache is in sharp contrast to the mood of Tony Cascarino, who hopes to make a perfect season complete by appearing for the Republic in West Germany.

Cascarino made his case for a shock European Championship call-up last month when, after his late inclusion in the squad for the friendly against Poland, he managed to get on the scoresheet as the Republic stretched their run of victories to eight.

After hitting 23 goals last season to help Millwall into Division One for the first time in their 103 year history, he is clearly a man in form.

Cascarino won three international caps under Eoin Hand's leadership but when Jack Charlton was appointed in 1986 the tall 25-year-old striker lost his place.

"To play in the Championships would make an unbelievable end to an excellent season for me."

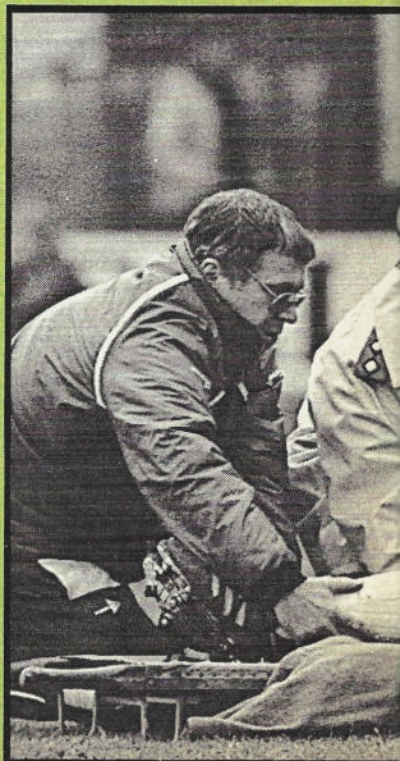
"After Millwall won the Second Division Championship I found myself looking forward to the prospect of going to places like Anfield and Old Trafford, and I can't think of a better way to prepare than getting to grips with some of the best defenders in Europe this month," says Tony.

Provide

A European Championship place would provide Cascarino with another step up the ladder after leaving Third Division Gillingham a year ago.

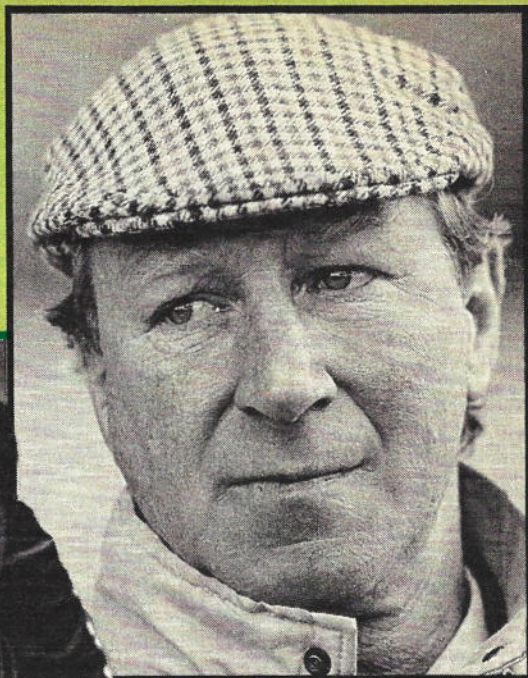
A lifelong Millwall fan, Cascarino chose to sign for The Lions despite the last-minute efforts of Ipswich and Aston Villa.

"Ipswich rang me on the day I signed for Millwall and a few hours later Aston Villa called. But I wasn't interested in either offer and now I've got a Second Division Championship medal I think my choice was correct."



ACK

VOWS Liam Brady



Republic manager Jack Charlton has repaid Brady's dedication to his country's cause by taking the West Ham midfielder to Germany as a non-playing member of his party.

Tragedy for Brady as he is stretchered off against Derby with a knee injury which has ruled him out of the European Championships.



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Shoot! verdict on the week's big matches

GROUP ONE

West Germany v Italy

BOTH teams are notoriously slow starters in the major tournaments, so it will be a surprise if this develops into a free-flowing, attacking, entertaining affair.

But West Germany's Rudi Voller will be keen to show the Italians that he isn't the flop they think after a disappointing season with Roma. And Gianluca Vialli, Italy's new hit-man, is capable of kicking off the Championships with a bang.

VERDICT: Goalless draw.

Denmark v Spain

THE two outsiders in Group One and the losers of this match, if there is one, can virtually kiss goodbye to any hopes of making it to the Semis.

It will be interesting to see whether the Danes adopt their normal flamboyant style after being walloped 5-1 by the Spaniards during the 1986 World Cup. Emilio Butragueno scored four of the goals and could help himself to a few more.

The Spanish defence is also suspect, so both teams could be committed to attack in Hanover. Butragueno's speed against 38-year-old Morten Olsen could be decisive.

VERDICT: Spanish victory.



West Germany v Denmark

THE Germans will slowly be settling into their stride by now, and their accomplished team unit should be too strong for the ageing Danes. And it will be one of the shocks of the tournament if Denmark manage to beat the Germans on their home territory.

VERDICT: German victory.

Italy v Spain

THE result of this match could have a vital bearing on which nation joins favourites West Germany in the Semis.

Difficult to predict the outcome, too, yet it will be vital for Spain that Butragueno and midfielder Michel are on top form.

VERDICT: Honours even.

GROUP TWO

England v Rep of Ireland

ANYTHING less than an England victory will be frowned upon by Bobby Robson. And it is vital that England get off to a solid start and build up confidence before their meetings with Holland and USSR.

By the same token, if the Irish fancy their chances of progress this is a match they dare not lose. Stand by for fireworks.

VERDICT: England victory.

Holland v USSR

AN intriguing battle of wits could develop here and, from England's point of view, a draw would be the perfect result.

Much depends, of course, on whether the Russians can contain Ruud Gullit. But the Dutch will also have to be wary of Oleg Protasov.

VERDICT: Entertaining draw.

England v Holland

THE big one, with the winners probably going on to lead the group table. The Dutch looked impressive when they played at Wembley recently but, as Glenn Hoddle showed during his brief second-half appearance, they can be troubled.

A great test of England's nerve and character. They can win this one if they believe in themselves.

VERDICT: You can do it, men.

Rep of Ireland v USSR

ANOTHER draw would be handy for Bobby and the boys, and the Republic are certainly capable of getting at least a point here.

It's not that we're biased, Big Jack, but do us all a favour and save your best form for this one.

VERDICT: Draw.

WHO CAN STOP RUUD?

Denmark were walloped 5-1 the last time they met Spain.





NEWSDESK

● SHOOT's roving reporter Dave Smith is one of 3,000 media men (and women too, no doubt) covering the Championships from West Germany over the next few weeks. We've got plenty of

photographers sending back pictures, too, so stick with us over the coming weeks for an unrivalled coverage of the action, events and personalities of the Finals.



ARNESSEN'S HORROR

Denmark's Frank Arnesen is out of the European Championships – and could be forced to quit football altogether – after breaking his leg and tearing ankle muscles last month.

Arnesen's moment of horror came in PSV Eindhoven's last League match, ironically a meaningless end of season affair between the newly crowned Champions of Holland and relegated Dordrecht.

PSV had told their 31-year-old import before the game that he had been awarded a free transfer and, as if to rub salt in his wounds, Arnesen then learned he will miss out on a possible £25,000 jackpot in West Germany.

Denmark's European Championship squad have been promised that much per man if they can lift the title.

Each player, plus manager Sepp Piontek, will receive a minimum of £11,500 just for taking part, and payments will increase according to Denmark's progress.

Also sidelined from the Championships, along with England's Terry Butcher and the Republic's Liam Brady, are West Germany's top striker Klaus Allofs, who was forced to undergo a knee operation, and Holland's Sonny Silooy, who is suffering from a disorder of his eyelid.

Ruud Gullit, Gianluca Vialli and our own John Barnes are among the stars who could win a £20,000 Opel car in West Germany. The player selected by a jury of experts, including former German international Uwe Seeler and Paul Breitner, as the man of the tournament will win the top of the range car and a special trophy.

MICHEL'S NOT FOR SALE



Spain's outstanding midfielder Michel has been the subject of an £8.5 million transfer bid by Italians Napoli. But Ramon Mendoza, president of Michel's club Real Madrid, flatly rejected the offer.

● An enterprising baker in West Germany is set to cash in on the Championships selling fresh cream cakes shaped like a football. They even have the same markings as the official matchball. Sporty, but nice.

All you need is Love

The Italian FA is doing its bit to promote goodwill among supporters from all eight competing nations by handing out 25,000 T-shirts in West Germany, with the slogan *Calcio e Amore* (Football is Love) emblazoned across them. The idea, incidentally, came from former Italian team manager Enzo Bearzot.

● Bobby Robson's men were shown the way to European Championship glory by a team of British sports reporters who set England a winning example in West Germany last month.

The British Press XI beat a German Press team 2-0 in Hamburg SV's Volksparkstadion, the venue for one of the European Championship Semi-Finals in June. A good omen?

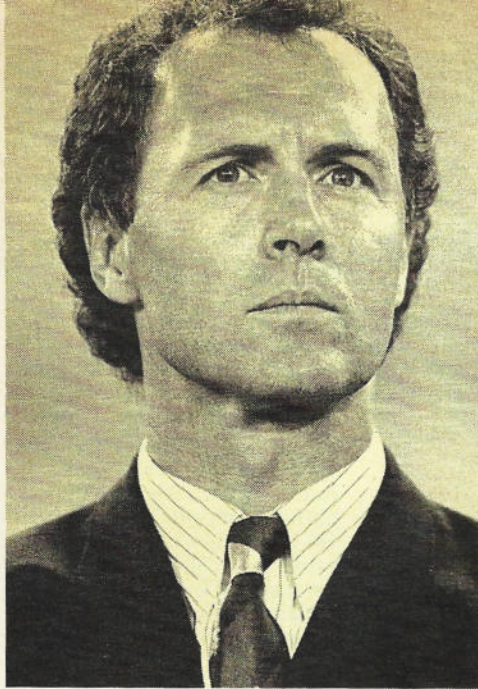
Thon's of money

Olaf Thon, West Germany's little pocket battleship, has rejected lucrative offers from three Italian clubs to move from Schalke 04 to Bayern Munich.

Thon, 22, is the lynchpin in Bayern's rebuilding programme. They have lost Lothar Matthaus and Andreas Brehme to Italian clubs, and have paid more than £1 million to get their man. Thon's four-year contract is worth another £1 million.

● West German team boss Franz Beckenbauer will be keeping close tabs on his rivals during the tournament in a sponsored helicopter. Franz, for example, will buzz off to Frankfurt on June 14 to watch Italy against Spain immediately after Germany's match against Denmark in Gelsenkirchen.





Franz Beckenbauer

Exclusive



MY MONEY'S ON ENGLAND

Franz Beckenbauer reckons the bookmakers are making a big mistake in making his own West German side favourites to win the European Championships.

He insists England are more likely winners!

Kaiser Franz watched his side pulverise the English in a friendly in Dusseldorf last September, but fears a severe backlash if the two nations meet again in West Germany this month.

He says: "That was the best we had played for a long time, and we've not managed to reach those heights since. It was our lucky day and I'm worried that the English might take their revenge on us in these Championships."

His team's 3-1 demolition of Bobby Robson's men brought stinging criticism of England's defence – particularly goalkeeper Peter Shilton.

'Security'

But Beckenbauer says: "In normal circumstances the English backline can be compared to the security at the Bank of England."

"Shilton is tremendously experienced and his two central defenders are a pair of giants. Anyone who thinks they can win a duel in the air against Tony Adams still believes in fairytales."

"England also have two very good right-backs in Gary Stevens and Viv Anderson. Bobby Robson is lucky to be able to choose between them."

"But it is the fellow at left-back, Kenny Sansom, who impresses me the most."

"He's small, very mobile and looks elegant on the ball. He's dangerous going forward and more than competent defensively."

Beckenbauer describes captain Bryan Robson as a "true leader who reminds me of Paul Breitner."

He continues: "He's not particularly creative but his

workrate, coupled with that of players like Trevor Steven, Peter Reid and Neil Webb, is such that Glenn Hoddle, if selected, can be certain of supremacy in midfield."

"On the left side of midfield is the player I call the coloured superman ... John Barnes. He brings together a Jamaican agility and English tenacity to make him such a feared opponent."

"And those left-footed shots of his arrive without warning and are as dangerous as a flick-knife."

"Gary Lineker has struggled at club level with Barcelona, but that isn't his fault. The whole club has been in turmoil."

"But he seems to put all his problems behind him when he plays for England and rediscovers his dangerous habits in front of goal."

"His greatest strength is his speed, and I'll never forget one incident against Brazil last year when, like a torpedo, he intercepted and took the ball off Peter Beardsley to make a darting run at goal. He missed the opportunity, but his speed was frightening."

'Agile'

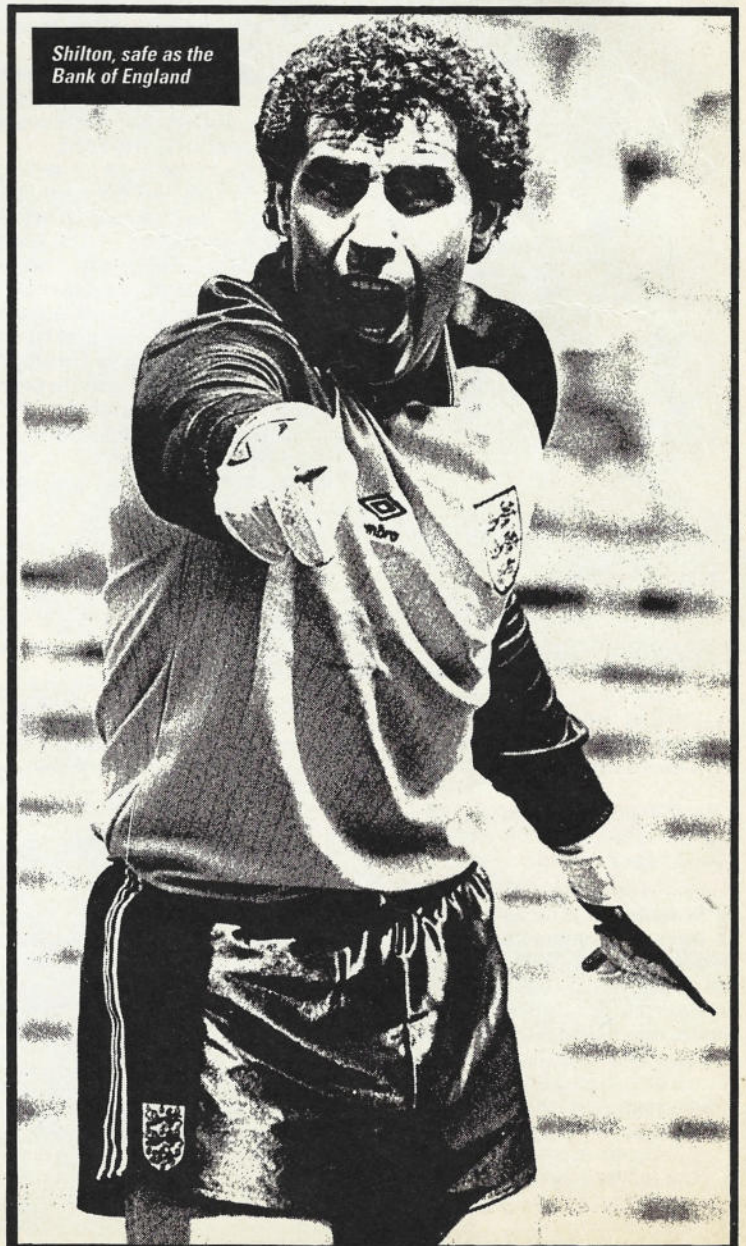
"Beardsley is the perfect accomplice. Small, agile, and very workmanlike."

"When I look at England's strongest line-up I must admit it seems like an untouchable force."

"Only very fast attackers will be able to overcome their defensive line and, if they are in the mood, the side has the ability to score goals against any team in these Championships."

"England will prove to be very hard to beat in West Germany. It will take a disastrous off day, like the one in Dusseldorf last September, to get past them."

Shilton, safe as the Bank of England



The best players and the best teams are set for a football extravaganza as the European Championships kick-off this week.

Answer these questions on the men who will light up the Finals.

Compiled by Steve Pearce

Preben Elkjaer's Italian League club are who?

- 1** Which Italian League club does Dutch star Marco Van Basten play for?
- 2** Which country topped the qualifying group that involved reigning Champions France?
- 3** Known as 'The Vulture', this striker carries the main threat from his nation. Who is he and which country does he play for?
- 4** Jesper and which other Olsen are likely to be in Denmark's side for their opening clash with Spain?
- 5** Which Walsall striker could well be starring in the Republic of Ireland team when they take on England in Stuttgart?
- 6** Russian goalkeeper Rinat Dassaev is one of only a handful of Soviet stars currently playing League football outside his homeland. True or false?

QUIZ

- 7** Denmark's striking partners Preben Elkjaer and Michael Laudrup were opponents in a League match in Italy this season. Which teams were involved?
- 8** Which country did Holland play three times in their qualifying group?

EUROPE'S ELITE

Rinat Dassaev

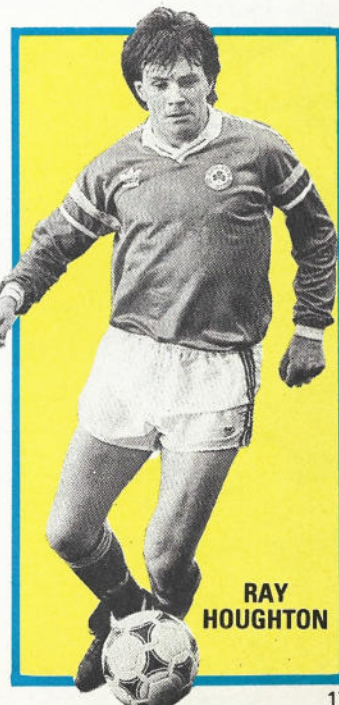
Roberto Mancini

**ANSWERS
ON PAGE
39**

- 9** Italians Roberto Mancini and Gianluca Vialli form a partnership at club and international levels. Do the pair play for Juventus, Udinese or Sampdoria?
- 10** Has West German manager Franz Beckenbauer led his side to European Championship glory as a player?
- 11** Will Andoni Zubizarreta or Luis Arconada be in goal for Spain in their match with Denmark on Saturday?

- 12** Which of the following Eire internationals was born in the Republic: John Aldridge, Ray Houghton or Kevin Moran?
- 13** In which year did Russia's Igor Belanov win the European Footballer of the Year trophy?
- 14** How many goals did Gary Lineker score in England's European Championship qualifying matches?
- 15** Can you name the West German international defender who played in the Centenary Classic at Wembley last August?

- 16** Fernando de Napoli will be contesting the midfield for which Group One country in the Finals?
- 17** Holland's talented sweeper Ronald Koeman has already sampled European success this season. Which club was he playing for and which trophy did they win?
- 18** Chris Waddle was on target for England in two of their European Championship qualifying games. He scored in the 3-0 win over Northern Ireland at Wembley and in which other match?
- 19** In which position does Jack Charlton often use Paul McGrath at international level?
- 20** Did Derby 'keeper Peter Shilton appear in all of England's qualifying games?



**RAY
HOUGHTON**

Shoot! MAGAZINE

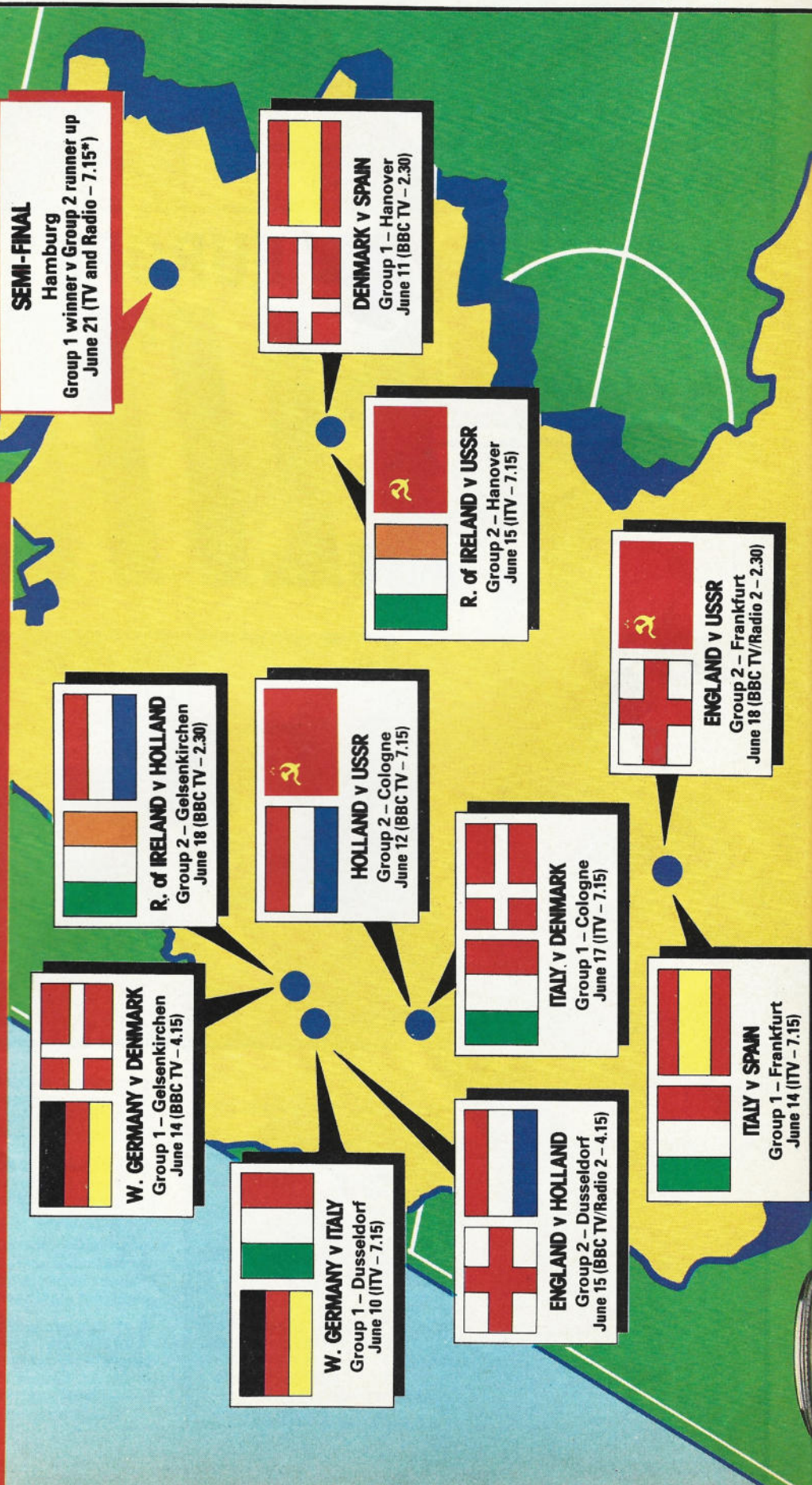


**STEP BY STEP
GUIDE TO THE**

European Championships

EURO FACTS

- 1 The United Kingdom arrived late at the European party, with none of the Home Countries competing in the first tournament, held from 1958-1960.
- 2 The Republic were the first team to be knocked out of the first Championship when they lost 4-2 on aggregate to Czechoslovakia in the only tie of the preliminary round.
- 3 Just 17 teams entered the first tournament; 33 started the current one.
- 4 The man who inspired the first Championships was Henri Delaunay, secretary of the French FA. Sadly he died before the first competition, which was then named after him before being re-titled first the European Nations Cup, then the European Championship.
- 5 The first Final was held in Paris and only 17,966 fans were there to see Russia beat Yugoslavia 2-1.
- 6 The Republic of Ireland's best performance came in the 1962-64 tournament, when they made the Quarter-Finals - only to be beaten home and away by eventual winners Spain.
- 7 England's best tournament was in 1968, when they came third, behind Italy and Yugoslavia.
- 8 In an all-time list of 8 matches played in the competition (including qualifying) and based on two points for a win and one for a draw, England lie third with 77 points behind Spain (81) and the USSR (79).
- 9 West Germany are the only team to have won the Championship twice, in 1972 and 1980.
- 10 England's first match in the Championship was in October, 1962. Ron Flowers scored in a 1-1 draw with France in Sheffield. France won 5-2 in Paris to knock England out.
- 11 Hosts Italy won their 1968 Semi-Final against Russia on the toss of a coin following a 0-0 draw in Naples.
- 12 When Spurs' Alan Mullery was sent-off in the 1968 Semi-Final against Yugoslavia he became the first England player to be dismissed.
- 13 If West Germany win, they will become the fourth nation to succeed as hosts after Spain (1964), Italy






ENGLAND v R. of IRELAND
Group 2 - Stuttgart
June 12 (ITV/Radio 2 - 2.30)

SEMI-FINAL
Stuttgart
Group 1 runner up v Group 2 winner
June 22 (TV and Radio - 7.15*)



W. GERMANY v SPAIN
Group 1 - Munich
June 17 (ITV - 7.15)

THE FINAL
Munich
June 25 (BBC TV/ITV/Radio 2 - 2.30)

GROUP ONE				
W. GERMANY v ITALY				
DENMARK v SPAIN				
W. GERMANY v DENMARK				
ITALY v SPAIN				
W. GERMANY v SPAIN				
ITALY v DENMARK				
GROUP TWO				
ENGLAND v R. of IRELAND				
HOLLAND v USSR				
ENGLAND v HOLLAND				
R. of IRELAND v USSR				
ENGLAND v USSR				
R. of IRELAND v HOLLAND				

*To be announced
All times shown are British Time

SEMI-FINALS

FINAL



Who's playing who? When? Where? Can I watch it on the box or listen to Radio commentary? These are the questions we've answered in this step-by-step guide to the European Championships in West Germany. And don't forget your best-selling SHOOT will be bringing all the drama of the tournament to you in glorious colour, DAYS after the games, keeping you up to date with the progress of England and the Republic of Ireland. Stick with us for the very best coverage.

- 14** France in 1984, was won almost single-handedly by Michel Platini, who scored nine goals in five matches to carry France to victory - a record for the final stages of the competition.
- 15** Only Kenny Sansom and Peter Shilton remain from the England team that played in Italy in the 1980 Championships.
- 16** England scored the most goals of any of the qualifiers en route to Germany. They hit 19 with Gary Lineker (5) top scorer.
- 17** England's defence is the second meanest in the Championship, conceding one goal in 540 minutes in the qualifiers. Holland conceded only one goal in 810 minutes (including the replayed match with Cyprus).
- 18** The Republic's eight matches were watched by 251,000 people (141,000 home, 110,583 away). Crowds varied from the 49,000 at Dalymount Park for the visit of Belgium to 4,290 in Luxembourg.
- 19** England's six qualifying games were watched by 255,828 people; 137,828 at home, 118,000 away. The biggest crowd was 70,000 for the 4-1 win in Yugoslavia.
- 20** Only Kenny Sansom and Gary Lineker played in all England's qualifying games; only Paul McGrath played every minute of the Republic's matches, though Kevin Moran, Liam Brady and Frank Stapleton figured in every game.



RUUD GULLIT
Holland



**GIANLUCA
VIALLI**
Italy





**EMILIO
BUTRAGUENO**
Spain



Shoot!



JOHN ALDRIDGE
Rep. of Ireland



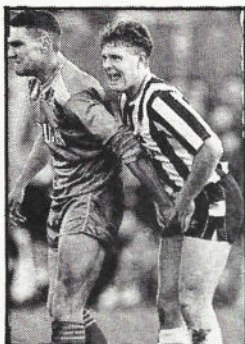
Shoot!

VINNY PINCH SHOCK

Hold on ... what's this? Has Lookalikes taken a new direction? This week's offering comes from George Gordon from Newstead in Roxburghshire (you mean they named a county after the Scotland manager?), who says: "I would like to point out that Vinny Jones' handling of Paul Gascogine is unoriginal."

"I enclose a picture of an early master of this art, Ron Harris of Chelsea, who is seen at Wembley in the 1972 League Cup Final damaging Terry Conroy's hopes of a family allowance claim."

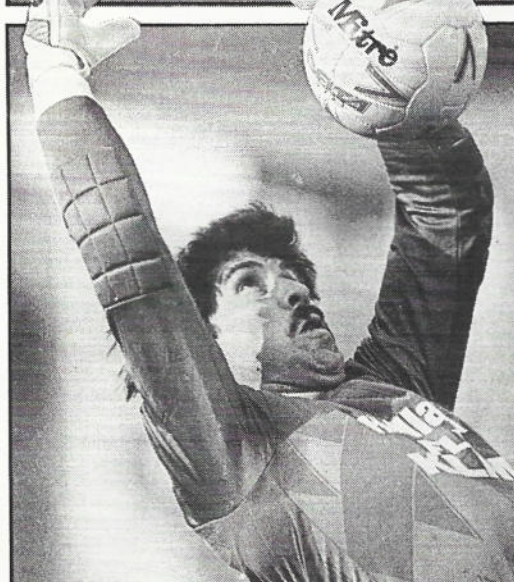
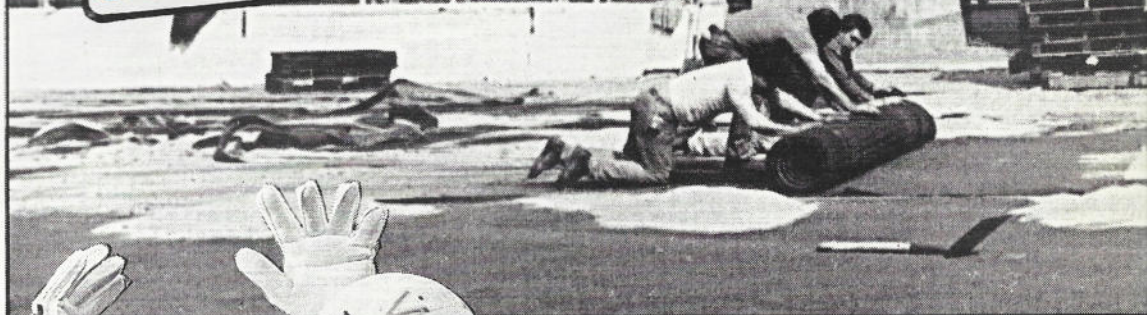
"Is that why Ron was known as Chopper Harris?"



A T-shirt is on its way George. You can win one (available in black or white, please state) if we publish your nomination. Send them to Lookalikes, SHOOT, Commonwealth House, 1-19 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1NG.

THE SEVE

Rangers roll up the plastic – and that'll do nicely for Seaman and co.



As England's third choice goalkeeper David Seaman sits by his phone wondering if he'll get a 'come on over' call from Bobby Robson, at least he can afford to smile.

Because Queens Park Rangers have dug up that plastic pitch at last!

Seven years after it was installed the diggers have moved in to the Rangers Stadium to rip up the plastic and replace it with a traditional grass surface – to the delight of almost everyone connected with football.

Seaman, who is on international standby in the event of Peter Shilton or Chris Woods sustaining injury during the European Championships, had the toughest job of all constantly throwing himself around on the hard, unrelenting plastic. It has left its mark on the 24-year-old former Birmingham 'keeper.

He admits: "There have been

QPR 'keeper David Seaman took a while to come to terms with the unpredictable bounce of Rangers' artificial pitch.

NOBBY

THERE'S NO GREATER THRILL THAN PULLING ON AN ENGLAND SHIRT



WHITE WITH RED AND BLUE TRIM IT'S EVERY ENGLISHMAN'S DREAM TO WEAR ONE



WELL WHY DO YOU GIVE IT AWAY AT THE END OF THE MATCH THEN?



THERE'S NO ANSWER TO THAT IS THERE?



NEW YEAR PITCH



The diggers move in to rip up the plastic pitch at Rangers much to the delight of their fans and players.

times when I've come off feeling the worse for wear with a few grazes and bruises – and that's despite wearing tracksuit bottoms. I'd have ended up a right mess by now without them.

"I also wore padding which helped cushion the hardness of the pitch, but it still felt uncomfortable when I dived.

"The bounce was a bit disturbing when I first arrived at the club from Birmingham. I had to adapt and it was only after a while that I could tell, most of the time, how high or low the ball was going to go."

Adjusted

It is a testimony to Seaman's ability and character that he so successfully adjusted to playing on the plastic one week and grass the next.

Yet it isn't only the goalkeeper who will be glad to see the back of the plastic.

"I don't think there is one player at the club who isn't sorry to see it go," reveals captain Alan McDonald.

"It has never been great for attractive football and it will be marvellous to have grass again next season. There's no doubt that the pitch has been good for QPR, however. The club has done well out of it financially and we never had a game called off because of

rain or snow."

Rangers were able to boost their coffers considerably after the surface was laid in 1981. Local teams paid £250 a time for the privilege of a two hour session inside a Football League ground. If they wanted the floodlights turned on it would set them back another £250, yet there was always a waiting list.

And in June, 1985 Rangers made a tidy sum when staging Barry McGuigan's world title bout against Eusebio Pedroza.

But the innovation also lost them untold revenue when Saturdays arrived, when many Rangers supporters would stay

HERE'S a statistical round-up of QPR's fortunes on the plastic pitch since it was laid in the summer of 1981:

LEAGUE GAMES	P	W	D	L	F	A	Position
1981-82	21	15	4	2	40	9	5th (Div 2)
1982-83	21	16	3	2	51	16	1st (Div 2)
1983-84	21	14	4	3	37	12	5th (Div 1)
1984-85	21	11	6	4	41	30	19th (Div 1)
1985-86	21	12	3	6	33	20	13th (Div 1)
1986-87	21	9	7	5	31	27	16th (Div 1)
1987-88	20	12	4	4	30	14	5th (Div 1)
TOTALS:	146	89	31	26	263	128	
CUP GAMES	P	W	D	L	F	A	
FA Cup	8	6	2	0	17	6	
League Cup	14	9	4	1	32	7	
TOTALS:	22	15	6	1	49	13	



Many players suffered burns after falling on the plastic surface.

away because they disliked what they called an artificial game.

Former Rangers hero Stan Bowles says: "I know a lot of people who stopped going to watch Rangers because they were disillusioned with the kind of football being played. Now that grass is back next season they plan to return."

The new pitch, a cell-system surface introduced to League football by Fulham a few years ago, has cost the club £250,000.

And McDonald adds: "I hope it doesn't turn out like the previous Loftus Road grass pitch. By January it used to turn into a complete quagmire. Football at that time of the year was a joke."

Many Rangers fans will still prefer the mud baths to the plastic farce of the last seven years.



LEFT: Manchester United's 20 goal man Brian McClair. BELOW LEFT: First Division top scorer John Aldridge.



DIVISION 1	ARSENAL	CHARLTON	CHELSEA	COVENTRY	DERBY	EVERTON	LIVERPOOL	LUTON	MAN. UTD	NEWCASTLE	NORWICH	NOTTM. F.	OXFORD	PORTSMOUTH	QPR	SHEFF. W.	SOTON	SPURS	WATFORD	WEST HAM	WIMBLEDON
ARSENAL		4-0	3-1	1-1	2-1	1-1	1-2	2-1	1-2	1-1	2-0	0-2	2-0	6-0	0-0	3-1	0-1	2-1	0-1	1-0	3-0
CHARLTON	0-3		2-2	2-2	0-1	0-0	0-2	1-0	1-3	2-0	2-0	1-2	0-0	2-1	0-1	3-1	1-1	1-1	1-0	3-0	1-1
CHELSEA	1-1	1-1		1-0	1-0	0-0	1-1	3-0	1-2	2-2	1-0	4-3	2-1	0-0	1-1	2-1	0-1	0-0	1-1	1-1	1-1
COVENTRY	0-0	0-0	3-3		0-3	1-2	1-4	4-0	0-0	1-3	0-0	0-3	1-0	1-0	0-0	3-0	2-3	2-1	1-0	0-0	3-3
DERBY	0-0	1-1	2-0	2-0		0-0	1-1	1-0	1-2	2-1	1-2	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-2	2-2	2-0	1-2	1-1	1-0	0-1
EVERTON	1-2	1-1	4-1	1-2	3-0		1-0	2-0	2-1	1-0	1-0	1-0	0-0	2-1	2-0	4-0	1-0	0-0	2-0	3-1	2-2
LIVERPOOL	2-0	3-2	2-1	4-0	4-0	2-0		1-1	3-3	4-0	0-0	5-0	2-0	4-0	4-0	1-0	1-1	1-0	4-0	0-0	2-1
LUTON	1-1	1-0	3-0	0-1	1-0	2-1	0-1		1-1	4-0	1-2	1-1	7-4	4-1	2-1	2-2	2-2	2-0	2-1	2-2	2-0
MAN. UTD	0-0	0-0	3-1	1-0	4-1	2-1	1-1	3-0		2-2	2-1	2-2	3-1	4-1	2-1	4-1	0-2	1-0	2-0	3-1	2-1
NEWCASTLE	0-1	2-1	3-1	2-2	0-0	1-1	1-4	4-0	1-0		1-3	0-1	3-1	1-1	1-1	2-2	2-1	2-0	3-0	2-1	1-2
NORWICH	2-4	2-0	3-0	3-1	1-2	0-3	0-0	2-2	1-0	1-1		0-2	4-2	0-1	1-1	0-3	0-1	2-1	0-0	4-1	0-1
NOTTM. F.	0-1	2-2	3-2	4-1	2-1	0-0	2-1	1-1	0-0	0-2	2-0		5-3	5-0	4-0	3-0	3-3	3-0	1-0	0-0	0-0
OXFORD	0-0	2-1	4-4	1-0	0-0	1-1	0-3	2-5	0-2	1-3	3-0	0-2		4-2	2-0	0-3	0-0	0-0	1-1	1-2	2-5
PORTSMOUTH	1-1	1-1	0-3	0-0	2-1	0-1	0-2	3-1	1-2	1-2	2-2	0-1	2-2		0-1	1-2	2-2	0-0	1-1	2-1	2-1
QPR	2-0	2-0	3-1	1-2	1-1	1-0	0-1	2-0	0-2	1-1	3-0	2-1	3-2	2-1		1-1	3-0	2-0	0-0	0-1	1-0
SHEFF. WED.	3-3	2-0	3-0	0-3	2-1	1-0	1-5	0-2	2-4	0-1	1-0	0-1	1-1	1-0	3-1		2-1	0-3	2-3	2-1	1-0
SOTON	4-2	0-1	3-0	1-2	1-2	0-4	2-2	1-1	2-2	1-1	0-0	1-1	3-0	0-2	0-1	1-1		2-1	1-0	2-1	2-2
SPURS	1-2	0-1	1-0	2-2	0-0	2-1	0-2	2-1	1-1	3-1	1-3	1-1	3-0	0-1	1-1	2-0	2-1		2-1	2-1	0-3
WATFORD	2-0	2-1	0-3	0-1	1-1	1-2	1-4	0-1	0-1	1-1	0-1	0-0	3-0	0-0	0-1	1-3	0-1	1-1		1-2	1-0
WEST HAM	0-1	1-1	4-1	1-1	1-1	0-0	1-1	1-1	1-1	2-1	2-0	3-2	1-1	1-1	0-3	0-1	2-1	0-1	1-0		1-2
WIMBLEDON	3-1	4-1	2-2	1-2	2-1	1-1	1-1	2-0	2-1	0-0	1-0	1-1	1-1	2-2	1-2	1-1	2-0	3-0	1-2	1-1	

BARCLAYS LEAGUE

DIVISION 3	ALDERSHOT	BLACKPOOL	BRENTFORD	BRIGHTON	BRISTOL CITY	BRISTOL R.	BURY	CHESTER	CHESTERFIELD	DONCASTER	FULHAM	GILLINGHAM	GRIMSBY	MANSFIELD	NORTHAMPTON	NOTTS. COUNTY	PORT VALE	PRESTON	ROTHERHAM	SOUTHEND	SUNDERLAND	WALSALL	WIGAN	YORK
ALDERSHOT		0-0	4-1	1-4	2-1	3-0	0-2	4-1	2-0	2-1	0-3	6-0	3-2	3-0	4-4	0-2	3-0	0-0	1-3	0-1	3-2	0-1	3-2	1-2
BLACKPOOL	3-2		0-1	1-3	4-2	2-1	5-1	0-1	1-0	4-2	2-1	3-3	3-0	2-0	3-1	1-1	1-2	3-0	3-0	1-1	0-2	1-2	0-0	2-1
BRENTFORD	3-0	2-1		1-1	0-2	1-1	0-3	1-1	2-0	1-1	3-1	2-2	0-2	2-2	0-1	1-0	1-0	2-0	1-1	1-0	0-1	0-0	2-1	1-2
BRIGHTON	1-1	1-3	2-1		3-2	2-1	2-1	1-0	2-2	2-0	2-0	2-0	0-0	3-1	3-0	1-1	2-0	0-0	1-1	0-0	3-1	2-1	1-0	1-0
BRISTOL CITY	2-0	2-1	2-3	5-2		3-3	3-2	2-2	2-1	1-0	4-0	3-3	1-1	1-2	2-2	2-1	1-0	3-1	2-0	3-2	0-1	0-0	4-1	3-2
BRISTOL R.	3-1	2-0	0-0	1-2	1-0		0-0	2-2	2-0	4-0	3-1	2-0	4-2	2-1	0-2	1-1	1-0	1-2	3-1	0-0	4-0	3-0	2-3	2-1
BURY	1-0	3-1	2-2	2-1	1-1	4-1		0-1	2-0	2-1	1-1	2-1	0-2	1-0	0-0	0-1	0-1	4-0	2-2	2-2	2-3	2-2	0-2	0-1
CHESTER	4-1	1-1	1-1	2-2	1-0	0-3	4-4		1-1	1-1	1-2	3-1	1-0	0-2	0-5	1-2	1-0	1-0	1-0	1-1	1-2	1-1	1-0	1-0
CHESTERFIELD	1-0	1-1	2-1	0-0	1-4	0-1	1-0	0-0		0-1	1-0	1-4	0-3	3-1	0-2	2-0	1-3	0-0	3-2	3-1	1-1	2-1	0-1	2-1
DONCASTER	0-0	2-1	0-1	0-2	1-2	0-1	1-2	2-2	1-0		2-2	4-2	1-0	0-2	0-2	0-1	1-1	3-2	2-2	0-1	0-2	0-4	3-4	2-0
FULHAM	1-2	3-1	2-2	1-2	0-0	3-1	0-1	1-0	1-3	4-0		0-2	5-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-2	0-1	3-1	3-1	0-2	2-0	3-2	3-1
GILLINGHAM	2-1	0-0	0-1	1-1	1-1	3-0	3-3	0-1	10-0	3-1	2-2		1-1	0-0	1-2	3-1	0-0	4-0	0-2	8-1	0-0	0-1	0-1	3-1
GRIMSBY	1-1	1-1	0-1	0-1	1-4	0-0	2-0	2-1	1-1	0-0	0-2	2-0		2-3	2-2	0-0	3-1	0-1	2-1	1-3	0-1	0-2	0-2	5-1
MANSFIELD	1-0	0-0	2-1	1-1	2-0	1-0	0-0	1-2	0-1	2-0	0-2	2-2	1-0		3-1	1-1	4-0	0-0	0-1	1-0	0-4	1-3	0-1	2-1
NORTHAMPTON	1-1	3-3	2-1	1-1	3-0	2-1	0-0	2-0	4-0	1-0	3-2	2-1	2-1	2-0		0-1	1-0	0-1	0-0	4-0	0-2	2-2	1-1	0-0
NOTTS COUNTY	2-1	2-3	3-0	1-2	0-1	1-1	3-0	1-0	2-0	2-0	5-1	0-1	0-0	1-1	3-1		1-2	4-2	4-0	6-2	2-1	3-1	4-4	3-0
PORT VALE	4-2	0-0	1-0	2-0	1-1	2-1	1-0	1-1	0-1	5-0	1-1	0-0	2-0	1-1	1-1	1-3		3-2	0-0	4-1	0-1	2-1	2-1	2-1
PRESTON	0-2	2-1	1-2	3-0	2-0	3-1	1-0	1-1	0-1	1-2	2-1	1-1	1-3	1-0	0-0	1-2	3-2		0-0	1-1	2-2	1-0	0-1	3-0
ROTHERHAM	1-0	0-1	2-0	1-0	4-1	1-1	0-1	5-2	1-1	1-0	0-2	1-2	0-0	2-1	2-2	1-1	1-0	2-2		1-1	1-4	0-1	1-1	0-1
SOUTHEND	0-1	4-0	2-3	2-1	2-0	4-2	1-0	2-2	3-0	4-1	0-2	1-3	0-0	2-1	1-1	1-2	3-3	1-2	1-1		1-4	1-1	3-2	3-1
SUNDERLAND	3-1	2-2	2-0	1-0	0-1	1-1	1-1	0-2	3-2	3-1	2-0	2-1	1-1	4-1	3-1	1-1	2-1	1-1	3-0	7-0		1-1	4-1	4-2
WALSALL	2-0	3-2	4-2	1-1	1-1	0-0	2-1	1-0	0-0	2-1	0-1	0-0	3-2	2-1	1-0	2-1	2-1	1-0	5-2	2-1	2-2		1-2	2-1
WIGAN	4-0	0-0	1-1	3-3	1-1	1-0	0-2	1-0	1-2	2-1	1-3	1-1	0-1	2-1	2-2	2-1	2-0	2-0	3-0	1-0	2-2	3-1		1-1
YORK	2-2	1-3	1-1	0-2	0-1	0-4	1-1	2-0	1-0	1-1	1-3	0-2	0-2	2-2	2-2	3-5	2-3	1-1	1-2	0-3	2-1	1-3	3-1	



TOP RIGHT: Sunderland's experienced striker Eric Gates. RIGHT: Brighton's deadly Dean Saunders.



DIVISION 2	ASTON VILLA	BARNLEY	BIRMINGHAM	BLACKBURN	BOURNEMOUTH	BRADFORD	C. PALACE	HUDDERSFIELD	HULL	IPSWICH	LEEDS	LEICESTER	MAN. CITY	MIDDLESBRO	MILLWALL	OLDHAM	PLYMOUTH	READING	SHEFF. UTD.	SHREWSBURY	STOKE	SWINDON	WBA
ASTON VILLA		0-0	0-2	1-1	1-1	1-0	4-1	1-1	5-0	1-0	1-2	2-1	1-1	0-1	1-2	1-2	5-2	2-1	1-1	1-0	0-1	2-1	0-0
BARNLEY	1-3		2-2	0-1	2-1	3-0	2-1	1-0	1-3	2-3	1-1	1-1	3-1	0-3	4-1	1-1	2-1	5-2	1-2	2-1	5-2	0-1	3-1
BIRMINGHAM	1-2	2-0		1-0	1-1	1-1	0-6	2-0	1-1	1-0	0-0	2-2	0-3	0-0	1-0	1-3	0-1	2-2	1-0	0-0	2-0	1-1	0-1
BLACKBURN	3-2	0-1	2-0		3-1	1-1	2-0	2-2	2-1	1-0	1-1	3-3	2-1	0-2	2-1	1-0	1-1	1-1	4-1	2-2	2-0	0-0	3-1
BOURNEMOUTH	1-2	1-2	4-2	1-1		2-0	2-3	0-2	6-2	1-1	0-0	2-3	0-2	0-0	1-2	2-2	2-2	3-0	1-2	2-0	0-0	2-0	3-2
BRADFORD	2-4	1-1	4-0	2-1	2-0		2-0	0-1	2-0	2-3	0-0	4-1	2-4	2-0	3-1	5-3	3-1	3-0	2-0	1-1	1-4	2-0	4-1
C. PALACE	1-1	3-2	3-0	2-0	3-1	1-1		2-1	2-2	1-2	3-0	2-1	2-0	3-1	1-0	3-1	5-1	2-3	2-1	1-2	2-0	2-1	4-1
HUDDERSFIELD	0-1	1-2	2-2	1-2	1-2	1-2	2-2		0-2	1-2	0-0	1-0	1-0	1-4	2-1	2-2	2-1	0-2	0-2	0-0	0-3	0-3	1-3
HULL	2-1	2-2	2-0	2-2	2-1	0-0	2-1	4-0		1-0	3-1	2-2	3-1	0-0	0-1	1-0	1-1	2-2	1-2	1-1	0-0	1-4	1-0
IPSWICH	1-1	1-0	1-0	0-2	1-2	4-0	2-3	3-0	2-0		1-0	0-2	3-0	4-0	1-1	2-0	1-2	2-1	1-0	2-0	2-0	3-2	1-1
LEEDS	1-3	0-2	4-1	2-2	3-2	2-0	1-0	3-0	0-2	1-0		1-0	2-0	2-0	1-2	1-1	1-0	0-0	5-0	2-1	0-0	4-2	1-0
LEICESTER	0-2	0-0	2-0	1-2	0-1	0-2	4-4	3-0	2-1	1-1	3-2		1-0	0-0	1-0	4-1	4-0	1-0	1-0	0-1	1-1	3-2	3-0
MAN. CITY	0-2	1-1	3-0	1-2	2-0	2-2	1-3	10-1	2-0	2-0	1-2	4-2		1-1	4-0	1-2	2-1	2-0	2-3	1-3	3-0	1-1	4-2
MIDDLESBRO	2-1	2-0	1-1	1-1	3-0	1-2	2-1	2-0	1-0	3-1	2-0	1-2	2-1		1-1	1-0	3-1	0-0	6-0	4-0	2-0	2-3	2-1
MILLWALL	2-1	3-1	3-1	1-4	1-2	0-1	1-1	4-1	2-0	2-1	3-1	1-0	0-1	2-1		1-1	3-2	3-0	3-1	4-1	2-0	2-2	2-0
OLDHAM	0-1	1-0	1-2	4-2	2-0	0-2	1-0	3-2	1-2	3-1	1-1	2-0	1-1	3-1	0-0		0-1	4-2	3-2	2-2	5-1	4-3	2-1
PLYMOUTH	1-3	0-0	1-1	3-0	1-2	2-1	1-3	6-1	3-1	0-0	6-3	4-0	3-2	0-1	1-2	1-0		1-3	1-0	2-0	3-0	1-0	3-3
READING	0-2	2-1	1-1	0-0	0-0	1-1	2-3	3-2	0-0	1-1	0-1	1-2	0-2	0-0	2-3	3-0	0-1		2-1	1-0	0-1	0-1	1-2
SHEFF. UTD	1-1	1-0	0-2	3-1	0-1	1-2	1-1	2-2	2-1	4-1	2-2	2-1	1-2	0-2	1-2	0-5	1-0	4-1		0-1	0-0	1-0	0-0
SHREWSBURY	1-2	1-1	0-0	1-2	2-1	2-2	2-0	3-1	2-2	0-0	1-0	0-0	0-0	0-1	0-0	2-3	2-1	0-1	2-0		0-3	2-1	0-1
STOKE	0-0	3-1	3-1	2-1	1-0	1-2	1-1	1-1	1-1	1-2	2-1	2-1	1-3	1-0	1-2	2-2	1-0	4-2	1-0	1-1		1-0	3-0
SWINDON	0-0	3-0	0-2	1-2	4-2	2-2	2-2	4-1	0-0	4-2	1-2	3-2	3-4	1-1	0-1	2-0	1-1	4-0	2-0	1-1	3-0		2-0
WBA	0-2	2-2	3-1	0-1	3-0	0-1	1-0	3-2	1-1	2-2	1-4	1-1	1-1	0-0	1-4	0-0	1-0	0-1	4-0	2-1	2-0	1-2	

RESULTS 1987-88

DIVISION 4	BOLTON	BURNLEY	CAMBRIDGE	CARDIFF	CARLISLE	COLCHESTER	CREWE	DARLINGTON	EXETER	HALIFAX	HARTLEPOOL	HEREFORD	L. ORIENT	NEWPORT	PETERBORO	ROCHDALE	SCARBORO	SCUNTHORPE	STOCKPORT	SWANSEA	TORQUAY	TRANMERE	WOLVES	WREXHAM
BOLTON		2-1	2-2	1-0	5-0	4-0	1-1	1-1	1-0	2-0	1-2	1-0	1-0	6-0	2-0	0-0	3-1	0-0	2-1	1-1	1-2	2-0	1-0	2-0
BURNLEY	2-1		0-2	1-2	4-3	0-3	0-0	2-1	3-0	3-1	1-0	0-0	2-0	2-0	1-2	4-0	0-1	1-1	1-1	1-0	1-0	1-1	0-3	1-0
CAMBRIDGE	2-2	2-0		0-0	1-2	0-1	4-1	1-0	2-1	2-1	1-1	0-1	2-0	4-0	1-3	1-2	1-0	3-3	2-0	0-3	1-0	1-1	1-1	0-1
CARDIFF	1-0	2-1	4-0		4-2	1-0	2-0	3-1	3-2	0-0	1-1	0-1	1-1	4-0	0-0	1-0	2-0	0-1	0-0	1-0	2-1	3-0	3-2	1-1
CARLISLE	0-2	3-4	2-1	0-0		4-0	0-1	3-3	0-0	1-1	1-3	3-1	1-2	3-1	0-2	2-0	4-0	3-1	2-0	0-1	3-3	3-2	0-1	0-4
COLCHESTER	3-0	0-1	0-0	2-1	1-0		1-4	2-1	0-2	2-1	0-0	1-0	0-0	0-0	4-1	1-0	1-3	0-3	2-0	2-1	0-1	0-0	0-1	1-2
CREWE	2-1	0-1	0-0	0-0	4-1	0-0		3-1	0-0	0-0	1-1	0-0	3-3	2-1	0-1	0-1	1-0	2-2	3-1	2-2	0-1	0-0	0-2	2-0
DARLINGTON	1-0	4-2	0-1	0-0	2-1	2-0	1-0		4-1	4-1	1-1	3-1	2-2	0-2	2-1	2-1	2-1	1-4	1-2	2-0	1-1	0-0	2-2	2-1
EXETER	1-1	1-2	3-0	0-2	1-1	0-2	3-1	4-1		1-2	1-0	2-2	2-3	3-0	0-1	1-1	1-0	1-1	2-1	3-1	0-1	0-1	2-4	1-1
HALIFAX	0-0	2-1	1-1	0-1	1-1	1-2	1-2	2-2	2-0		3-1	2-1	1-0	3-1	0-0	1-2	2-2	2-2	2-0	3-1	2-3	2-1	2-1	2-0
HARTLEPOOL	0-0	2-1	2-1	0-1	0-0	3-1	2-1	2-5	3-1	2-1		1-2	2-2	0-0	0-1	1-1	1-0	1-0	1-3	0-2	0-0	1-2	0-0	1-0
HEREFORD	0-3	2-1	1-0	1-2	2-0	1-0	1-1	1-0	1-1	2-1	4-2		0-3	4-2	0-1	0-0	1-1	2-3	0-1	0-0	0-0	1-1	1-2	0-2
L. ORIENT	1-2	4-1	0-2	4-1	4-1	0-0	1-1	4-3	2-3	4-1	0-2	4-0		4-1	2-0	8-0	3-1	1-1	1-1	3-0	0-2	3-1	0-2	2-1
NEWPORT	0-1	0-1	0-0	1-2	1-2	1-2	1-2	2-1	1-1	1-0	2-3	0-0	0-0		0-4	0-1	0-4	1-1	1-2	1-2	3-1	0-3	1-3	2-0
PETERBORO	0-4	5-0	1-0	4-3	1-0	2-0	0-4	1-2	2-1	1-0	0-1	1-2	1-2	3-0		1-1	0-0	1-1	0-0	0-1	0-2	2-1	1-1	1-0
ROCHDALE	2-2	2-1	2-1	2-2	1-2	1-4	2-2	1-3	0-0	0-0	0-2	3-1	1-3	3-0	1-1		1-1	2-1	0-1	2-3	1-1	0-0	0-1	1-2
SCARBORO	4-0	1-0	0-0	1-1	3-1	3-1	2-0	0-1	3-1	1-1	1-1	2-1	3-1	3-1	1-1	2-1		0-0	1-1	2-0	1-2	2-0	2-2	0-2
SCUNTHORPE	1-1	1-1	3-2	2-1	1-0	2-2	2-1	1-0	1-1	1-0	3-0	3-0	3-2	3-1	5-0	1-0	0-1		0-0	1-2	2-3	3-0	0-1	3-1
STOCKPORT	1-2	2-0	0-2	0-1	3-0	1-1	1-1	1-1	2-1	1-0	1-0	0-2	1-2	5-1	0-1	1-1	1-1	1-1		0-2	2-1	1-2	0-2	1-1
SWANSEA	1-0	0-0	1-1	2-2	3-1	1-2	2-4	3-0	0-2	1-1	2-1	3-0	3-0	1-2	2-1	0-3	3-0	1-1	1-1		1-1	1-2	1-2	2-1
TORQUAY	2-1	1-3	0-1	2-0	1-0	0-0	1-0	0-0	1-1	1-2	1-1	1-0	1-1	6-1	0-0	5-0	0-1	1-2	3-0	0-1		1-0	0-0	6-1
TRANMERE	2-0	0-1	0-1	0-1	3-0	0-2	2-2	2-1	2-1	2-0	3-1	0-1	2-1	4-0	3-1	6-1	1-0	1-3	4-0	1-2	1-1		3-0	1-0
WOLVES	4-0	3-0	3-0	1-4	3-1	2-0	2-2	5-3	3-0	0-1	2-0	2-0	2-0	2-1	0-1	2-0	0-0	4-1	1-1	2-0	1-2	3-0		0-2
WREXHAM	0-1	1-3	3-0	3-0	4-0	0-1	2-1	0-1	3-0	2-2	2-1	0-0	2-2	4-1	3-1	2-3	1-0	2-1	2-1	1-2	2-3	3-0	4-2	



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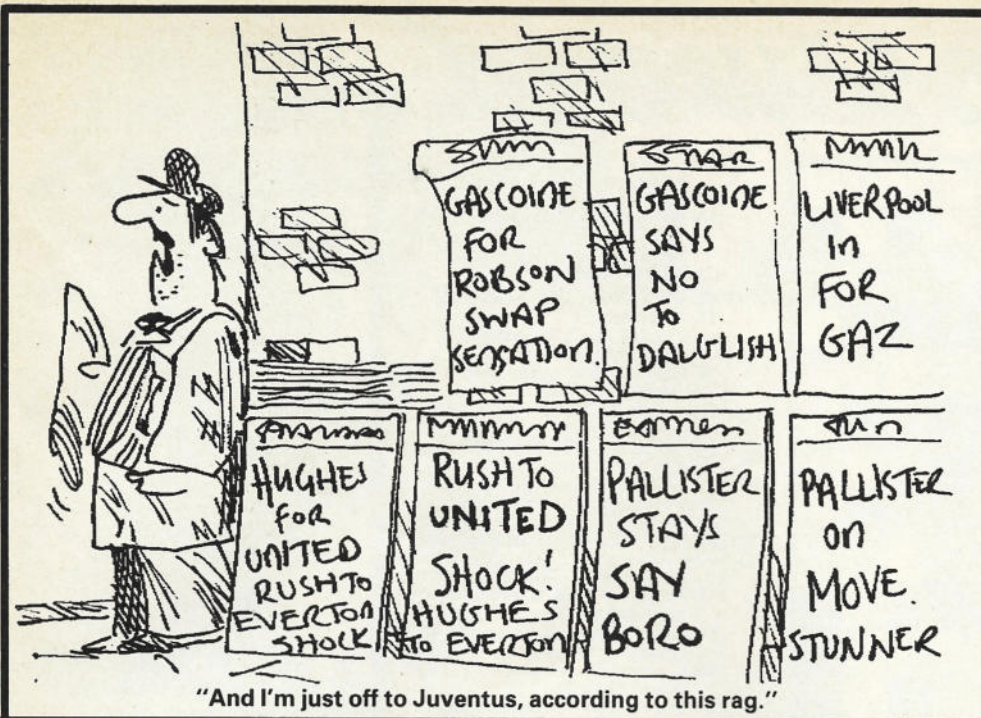


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DALIAN DAZZLES DUNCAN

As manager John Duncan scours the country in search of reinforcements, his success in persuading Dalian Atkinson to remain at Ipswich for a further two years could prove to be the biggest coup of all.

The Portman Road boss, dismayed at the way his side's promotion challenge fizzled out half-way through his first season in charge, is committed to at least three summer signings.

By far the most significant close season development, however, could be the 20-year-old wonder winger's decision to add his signature to a new contract.

Atkinson burst onto the scene in spectacular style last term with eight goals in 12 games after spending most of the campaign on the transfer list.

Duncan points out: "Dalian wasn't on the list to be sold. That was never the intention. I was just trying to gee him up."

"I wanted him to show what he could really do and I'm delighted he came up trumps."

"Now, I'm pleased he has signed a new contract. He's very popular with the crowd and I'm looking for him to continue to improve next season."

Destroy

England manager Bobby Robson, back at Portman Road to check on the form of Middlesbrough central defender Gary Pallister, saw Atkinson destroy high-flying Boro with a brilliant hat-trick as Ipswich recorded a shock 4-0 triumph.

Atkinson didn't have long to wait for his reward, a place in the England Under-20 squad for a three-game summer visit to Brazil.

"I'm pleased to be staying at Ipswich and to be perfectly honest it never even entered my head to leave, even when I was on the transfer list," he says.

"I suppose it was a bit like putting me on trial. Maybe it was my last chance - I don't know - but I simply made up my mind to show the manager what I could do."

SLENDER JACKSON

Newcastle United's Darren Jackson is spending this close season in a curious quest. He is searching for a few pounds - but not the loadsamoney kind.

Instead, the Scottish midfielder is seeking to pile on the pounds to his trim frame and add breadth to his shoulders.

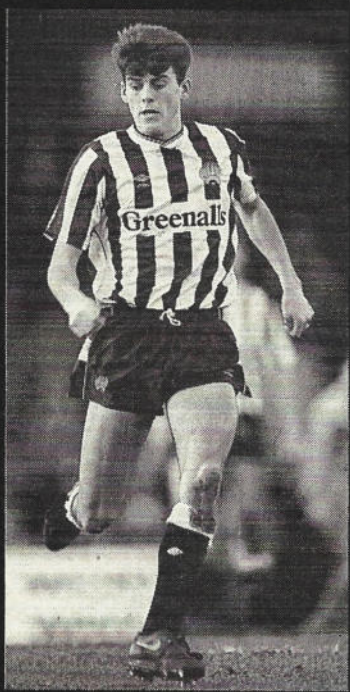
Jackson explains: "Last season I was playing in a wide midfield role. But now I'm aiming for a place in the centre of midfield - so I'll need extra weight and strength."

"That is why I've a weight-training programme designed to give me more bulk. I'll also be using a punch ball, the type popular with boxers."

"The fact is that in spite of my previous attempts to put on weight I'm still no more than ten stone."

"I've never found my lack of weight to be a big handicap. But if I'm to have a crack at being in the midfield engine room then I must make sure I've the weight and power to do a job there, week in and week out."

Maybe Newcastle will have to put him on the Paul Gascoigne diet!



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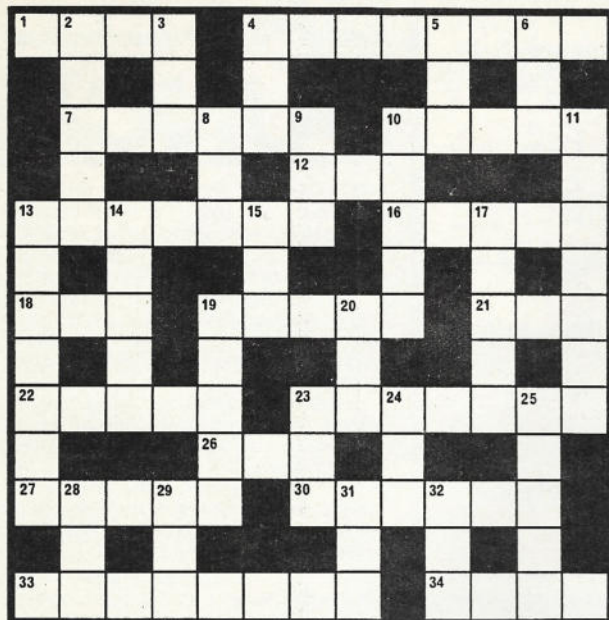
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Shoot!

Crossword



CLUES ACROSS:-

- (1) Bird in the name of the club from the Vetch Field. (4)
- (4) Nigel -, Liverpool midfielder. (8)
- (7) Mark -, Aston Villa striker. (6)
- (10) John -, Eire striker. (5)
- (12) Take cash away from Chelsea and make a fish from the remaining letters. (3)
- (13) See 19 Down. (7)

- (16) Tony -, Arsenal defender. (5)
- (18) Vince Hil---e, Portsmouth winger. (3)
- (19) Nigel -, Villa 'keeper. (5)
- (21) Robert -, Charlton forward. (3)
- (22 & 26) Home of Doncaster. (5)
- (23) Practised and exercised to improve one's play. (7)
- (26) See 22. (3)
- (27) Don - (Manchester City) 'Footballer of the Year', 1954-55. (5)

- (30) Tony -, full-back currently with Chelsea. (6)
- (33) Kevin -, Norwich striker. (8)
- (34) Protection for the shins. (4)

CLUES DOWN:-

- (2) Gary -, Man. Utd. 'keeper. (5)
- (3) No score! (3)
- (4) The 1st, last & 5th letters of Sincil Bank (Lincoln). (3)
- (5) Gary --ll-, Newcastle United goalkeeper. (3)
- (6) --field Park; Stirling Albion's ground. (3)
- (8) If Arsenal, Fulham & Aberdeen give "RUB"; what do Clyde, Derby & Stoke give? (3)
- (9) Notice from the initial letters of Exeter, Swindon & Everton. (3)
- (10) One of Grimsby's colours. (5)
- (11) -- Park; ground of Dunfermline. (4&3)
- (13) Mark -----lain, Sheffield Wednesday winger. (7)
- (14) 'Join up' from the letters of Hartlepool United. (5)
- (15) C---ham Rovers won the FA Cup in 1880. (3)
- (17) Martin -, QPR midfielder. (5)
- (19 & 13 Across) Nottingham Forest full-back. (5)
- (20) ---wich City, The Canaries. (3)
- (23) - MacDougall scored a record nine goals in a match for Bournemouth in 1971. (3)
- (24) - United, Scottish Second Division Champions. (3)
- (25) - Park; ground of Blackburn. (5)
- (28) Steve P---s, 'Boro 'keeper. (3)
- (29) - Atkins, Ipswich defender. (3)
- (31) The ---s nickname of Sheffield Wednesday. (3)
- (32) ---s, nickname of Lincoln. (3)

ANSWERS ON PAGE 39

Shoot Winners GILLETTE

COMPETITION

First Prize winner of the Gillette competition featured in our 19th March issue was Robert Durham, of Silverdale, Newcastle, Staffs.

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50 runners-up receive a Bootbag, T-shirt and Contour razor.

Unfortunately space does not allow us to print all the names and addresses.

NINJA

COMPETITION

The five winners of the Scootech competition featured in our 26th March issue were: Graham Lay, Lowestoft; Barry Thompson, Hampton Magna; Stephen Slack, West Yorkshire; Stewart Murray, Edinburgh; John Woodward, Harpenden.

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D.J. Bear teams up with Alan Mullery and SHOOT Editor Peter Stewart to sign the contract which will brighten up football. Peter is the one on the right.



Who is D.J. Bear?

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Football is in desperate need of colourful characters to bring the fun back into the game and in all my years in football I've never met anyone funnier or more colourful than D.J. Bear. He's just what football needs today.
ALAN MULLERY MBE

I met D.J. Bear on Nelson's Victory in Portsmouth Harbour a couple of weeks ago and he had me on the floor with laughter. I welcome him with open arms.
ALAN BALL

I met him when I was at Lincoln. I wanted him to work with me at Watford. Now I'm with Aston Villa the offer's still open.
GRAHAM TAYLOR

EURO WINNERS

SHOOT and D. J. Bear, are backing England to go all the way in West Germany.

"Bobby Robson's squad are capable of winning the European Championships," says the Bear.

"And the England fans could win the European Fans Fun Cup if they wanted to.

"So, come on you lads. Let's prove to Europe and the rest of the world that we can behave and be a credit to our country."

I worked with him on a World Cup coaching book - he's the greatest.
DON HOWE

He's not afraid to put his head on the chopping block - that's why he's going to be a winner.
DAVE SEXTON

I can rabbit, but he never stops - the fans on the terraces now have a voice even Cloughie can't match. I'm looking forward to seeing him at White Hart Lane next season. He might even get a game.
TERRY VENABLES

Summer smiles with SHOOT and The BEAR

D.J. BEAR means to bring a smile back to our great old game, starting with a super football fun record for the fans.

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D.J. Bear hopes it will go a long way to uniting every soccer club into one voice and help diffuse a lot of the inter-club hate.

"I want to hear from you, my mates, on the terraces. Tell me what you feel about the fame, the good, the not-so-good and the bad - and I'll do your talking.

"I'll make the game listen to us. WOT A PRO!"



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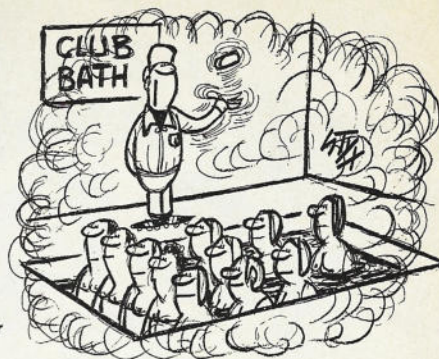
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"They weren't kidding when they said this lot were defensive."

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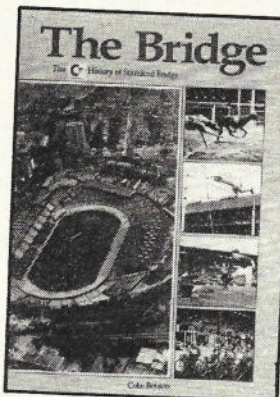
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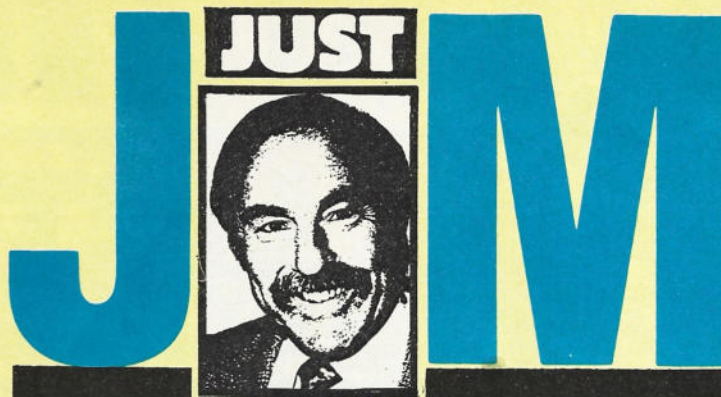
Taffs out

It is not right that Cardiff should be allowed to enter the European Cup-Winners' Cup after winning the Welsh Cup. If they want to compete in the English League, they should accept the same punishment from UEFA as the rest of our clubs.

REUBEN SIMON,
HOUNSLOW, MIDDX.



What a small-minded, miserable argument. Cardiff are a Welsh club with a right to play in the Welsh Cup. It is the English clubs which have been banned by UEFA. If the Football League choose to invite Cardiff to participate in their competition, that's up to them.



This week's Star Letter and £10 winner comes from Peter Mellor of Lambeth Road, Linthorpe in Cleveland.

Don't scrap our history

I'm disgusted by suggestions of scrapping the England v Scotland fixture. What a victory for the hooligans it would be if such an historic match were to be sacrificed.



I was dismayed by the recent Wembley trouble because it's not a match with a real history of crowd violence. Scotland's followers are always a bloody nuisance when they come down because there's so many of them and most of them are drunk. But although they're noisy and rowdy, they're not normally out to cause trouble. I don't know what went wrong this time, but it's maybe the last straw when British fans start fighting with each other. I don't think the fixture will be scrapped altogether, but I'm certain it will now be staged in midweek.

Germany's Cup

OK Jim, we've waited long enough. Who are you going to tip as winners of the European Championship?

IAN CAMPBELL,
ST. HELENS, MERSEYSIDE.



Realistically, it's hard to go against the West Germans. But even at this stage it's really still too early to predict with any degree of certainty. I'm more confident about my last four - West Germany, England, Holland and Italy.

Poor Barnes

Everyone has been raving about John Barnes, but when is he going to do it for England? In nearly 40 games for his country he still hasn't proved himself to be an international player.

MARCUS WALKER,
MAIDENHEAD, BERKS.



It's unfair to say he's never played well for England, but I agree that he doesn't impose himself on games as he does for Liverpool. I just hope John (below) has been saving his best form for the European Championships, because England are relying heavily on him, Lineker and Beardsley. We're going to need plenty of goals because the defence isn't up to much.



Trust Jim

Manchester United have made a brilliant signing in Jim Leighton. He could be the final piece in the Old Trafford jigsaw.

SHANE CONVEY,
WERRINGTON, PETERBOROUGH.



Leighton (below) is an excellent signing. He'll do well at United and enhance their defensive record. But I don't know if any goalkeeper can be the final piece. United had an outstanding season last time out, but it went virtually unnoticed because of Liverpool's achievements. They are obviously preparing a more realistic challenge for next season.

Sing up

After listening to all the recent football records, I'm convinced that even you could do a better job. How about it?

PAUL PITTON,
NORWICH.



As it happens, I was in the recording studio on Monday, making The Greavsie Rap. And I have to admit that it is quite incredible ... in its own fashion. But I don't think there are any plans to inflict my efforts on the public at large. It will be used with the opening titles for my new chat show.



Wally of the Week

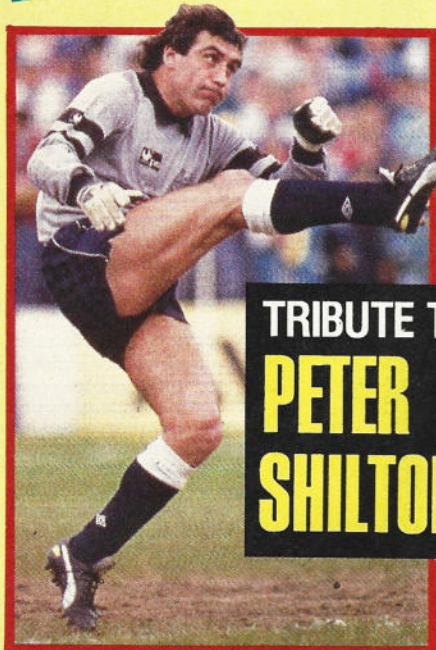
Now that Derby have secured their place in the First Division, I believe they are going to be challenging for the title next season.



BARRY KNIGHT, BOLSOVER, DERBYS.
Don't be such a berk. The only title Derby have a chance of landing is the Chubby Chairman award.

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I WANT TO STAY AT EVERTON

The soccer grapevine is buzzing with stories of an Everton exodus and even here in Stuttgart the rumours are flying around the England hotel.

My international team-mates Trevor Steven and Gary Stevens are the latest Evertonians to be linked with a move away from Goodison, and they're in pretty good company because just about every member of Colin Harvey's team has featured in some sort of transfer story in recent weeks.

I am no exception and know I've been linked with at least three different clubs since the end of the season.

So it is only fair to Everton supporters that I explain my exact situation as it stands at the moment.

My contract with the club expires at the end of the month and unless something is sorted out before then I will become a free agent on July 1.

Certain other clubs have made it clear they would like to talk to me and I'm very flattered by their interest.

But I have said all along that my

PETER REID Column

I won't consider a move unless my negotiations with Everton fall through

loyalties lie with Everton and if they can come up with an acceptable offer then I will be only too happy to stay.

I won't consider a move to another team unless my negotiations with Everton fall through.

As player-coach at Goodison, I have obviously been involved in discussions about the playing staff with the boss. But at the end of the day, I won't be deciding which players will be coming and going. That is a job for Colin Harvey alone.

It is no secret that changes will be made. Last season was our worst for years and the club cannot afford to let Liverpool have things all their own way again next time.

The simple truth is that we are just not good enough at the moment. We have become a soft touch away from home, we haven't battled as hard as we

should and we haven't stuck our chances away.

From a purely selfish point of view, I was reasonably happy with my form last season. But football is a team game and when you win nothing it doesn't matter how well individuals have played.

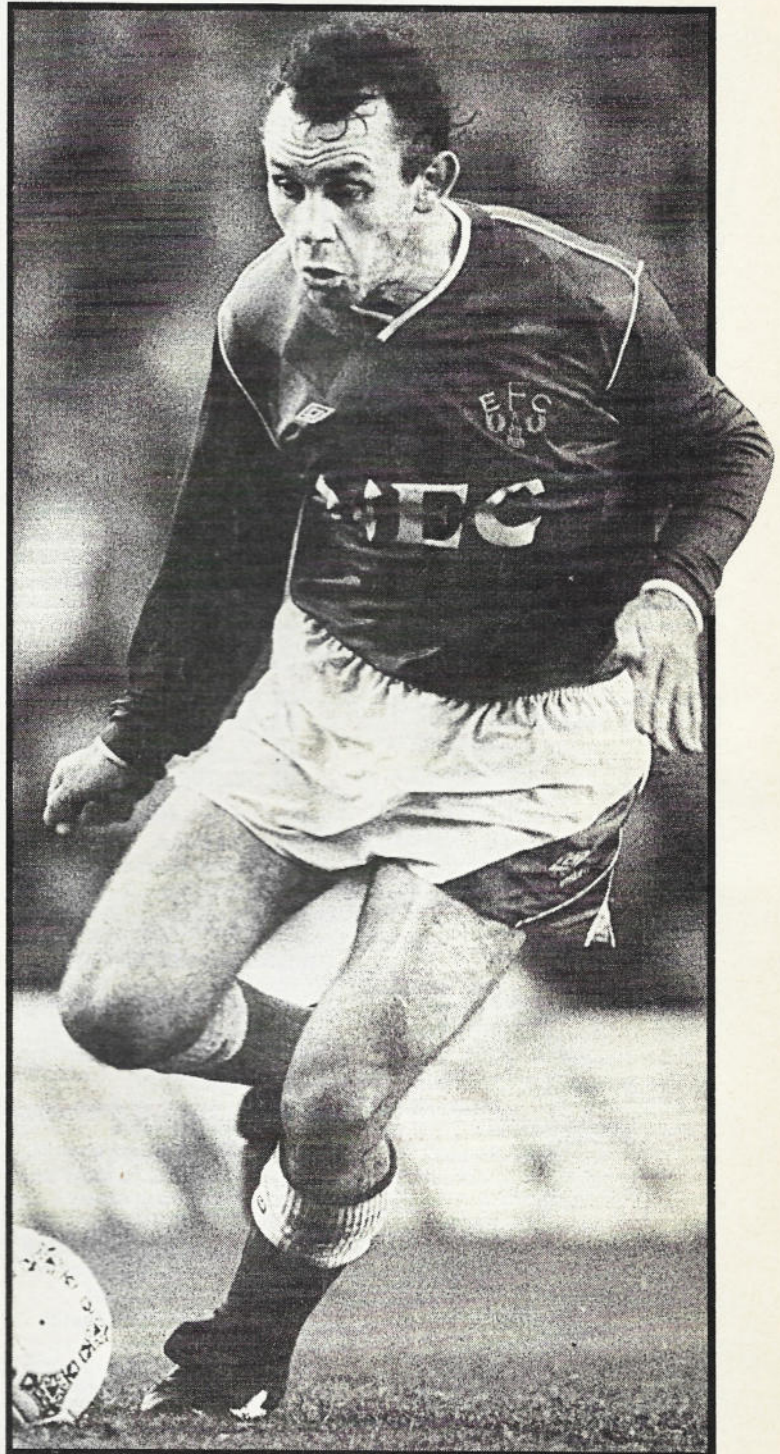
Failure

The responsibility for our failure belongs to the whole team and I take my share of the blame.

Now people are saying that this is the end of an era at Everton, but I wouldn't go as far as that.

Changes are made every year, and maybe because we haven't had a successful season too much is being read into the situation.

It is important for a club of Everton's ambitions to make progress. With a couple of good signings this summer, we will be in a position to challenge Liverpool again next term.



Because, in spite of all the rumours, the nucleus of the side will be staying with Everton. Neville Southall, Kevin Ratcliffe, Dave Watson and Graeme Sharp will all still be around to lead the Goodison challenge.

Hopefully, I'll be there, too, but at the moment I'm trying to forget all the transfer talk and concentrate on helping England to European Championship glory.

I know I'm not going to be in the starting line-up for our first game against the Irish this Sunday. But I was in the same position during the World Cup Finals in Mexico, and look what happened out there.

Peter Reid

The all too predictable violence which followed Chelsea's relegation from the First Division has killed any lingering hope of English clubs returning to European competition next season.

Now, as England's national team prepare to participate in the European Championships, a massive police operation is underway in West Germany to contain the 10,000 supporters expected to be following Bobby Robson's team.

The Germans are preparing for the worst. That is hardly surprising.

Speaking after his team's Play-Off defeat by Middlesbrough, Chelsea chairman Ken Bates suggested the Press should launch a campaign to get our clubs reinstated to European competition next season.

This magazine launched a Lift The Ban campaign ten months ago. Sadly, after witnessing the trouble at Stamford Bridge, we now realise our efforts were premature.

Mr. Bates denied that 102 arrests and at least 25 injured police officers constituted a riot.

He criticised the BBC for "tricking" their way into his ground in order to show the trouble. He complained that the media had not reported the attacks on Chelsea fans after the first-leg of the Play-Off Final at Ayrshire Park. He even hinted that much of the Stamford Bridge pitch invasion was the responsibility of one newspaper photographer.

Punched

What a pity that the stewards were so busy trying to prevent photographic evidence from being obtained that they forgot to carry out their proper duties of keeping the crowd in check. At least one SHOOT photographer was punched by a Chelsea steward.

Even the police, who had just struggled courageously to quell the trouble, did not escape their share of blame. Why didn't they form a cordon around the pitch to keep the fans back?

But Mr Bates went to such extremes to absolve his club of any responsibility for the frightening events that he almost

ShootView

**Chelsea fans
kill off our
Euro return**



appeared to be justifying the actions of the thugs.

In fairness to Chelsea they had the foresight to hire 378 police officers and did their level best to keep rival supporters apart.

But the simple fact is that even such costly precautions failed to control a large number of drunken idiots causing trouble.

We can only question the mentality of so-called 'responsible adults' who are happy to spend an entire afternoon singing the nursery song 'One man Went To Mow' and hurling celery at each other.

One Chelsea fan was so enraged at his failure to get at the Middlesbrough fans that he constantly butted the metal perimeter fence in an attempt to break it down.

Is this headbanger the sort of ambassador English football

really needs? Would Mr Bates be happy to inflict that lame brain on the rest of Europe?

The frightening thing is that a number of those same Stamford Bridge miscreants are even at this moment heading for Stuttgart in their 'England Invasion of Germany' T-shirts.

It is not our intention to anticipate problems before they arise. But at the same time, we cannot ignore the fear England's fans are exporting to the continent.

All we can do is appeal to our readers in Germany to stay calm, ignore all provocation and ensure UEFA have no further cause to punish our footballers.

But even if these Championships do pass without incident, it is still our belief that English clubs are not yet ready to be readmitted to European competition. The risk is too great.

BLUE



Striker Trevor Senior booked a quick flight back into the First Division with Middlesbrough just two months after leaving relegated Watford.

The £200,000 hot-shot repaid that sum with a goal and an assist in Boro's Play Off clash with Chelsea - a performance that was crucial in the club's 2-1 aggregate victory.

For Boro it was their second successive promotion triumph and it came just two years after the threat of closure.

This magazine launched a Lift the Ban campaign ten months ago. Sadly, we now realise our efforts were premature. It's too great a risk.

MURDER



Walsall boss Tommy Coakley gets a soaking from striker David Kelly – and he's delighted.

The Midlands are in the Second Division for the first time in 25 years thanks to Kelly's hat-trick performance in the club's 4-0 Play Off replay win over Bristol City.

Also on their way up are Swansea, who beat Torquay in the Third Division Play-Off to send their fans into raptures.

REVEALED *Billy McNeill's Celtic target*

Q&A

European Cup • Scottish

MANAGER Billy McNeill sat alone in the Hampden dressing-room as his Celtic players took a bow after beating Dundee United to complete a centenary League and Cup double.

For McNeill, the man who breathed new life into an ailing club when he returned last year to replace Davie Hay, was already planning for the rigours of the new season.

"The lads were magnificent all season," says McNeill. "They gave their all and proved themselves over and over again."

"They remind me so much of the Lisbon Lions. The team that won everything in '67, including the European Cup, just never knew how to accept defeat."

"The present team have the same outlook. They just refuse to surrender. That's why we have won so many games in the last minute. This team gives its all every inch of the way."

"Hearts manager Alex MacDonald said Celtic are still playing ten minutes after the final whistle. I know exactly what he means. They have determination, appetite and pride... three very important ingredients for any team searching for success."

Resting

But McNeill has no intention of resting on his laurels. In his comeback season Celtic won two trophies... in the new campaign he will look for **FOUR!**

McNeill will want to add the European Cup and the Skol Cup to the Championship and the Scottish Cup and if his enthusiasm and ambition border on the unbelievable do not expect the Celtic manager to apologise for it.

"You must always look for progress," he says. "The centenary year was memorable for all concerned. But that's history now. We must look ahead to the fresh challenges we must meet and overcome."

"We're the Champions and everyone will be gunning for us. We haven't done much in Europe in recent years and now is the time to rectify that particular situation."

Billy Stark more than repaid his £75,000 transfer fee in his first year at Parkhead.



"No-one realises more than I what it means to have a good run in Europe. It gives everyone a real lift and it enhances the name of the club in a huge arena."

"Everyone is aware of the Celtic traditions. We are well-known for our attacking policies. It's time Europe saw a lot more of us."

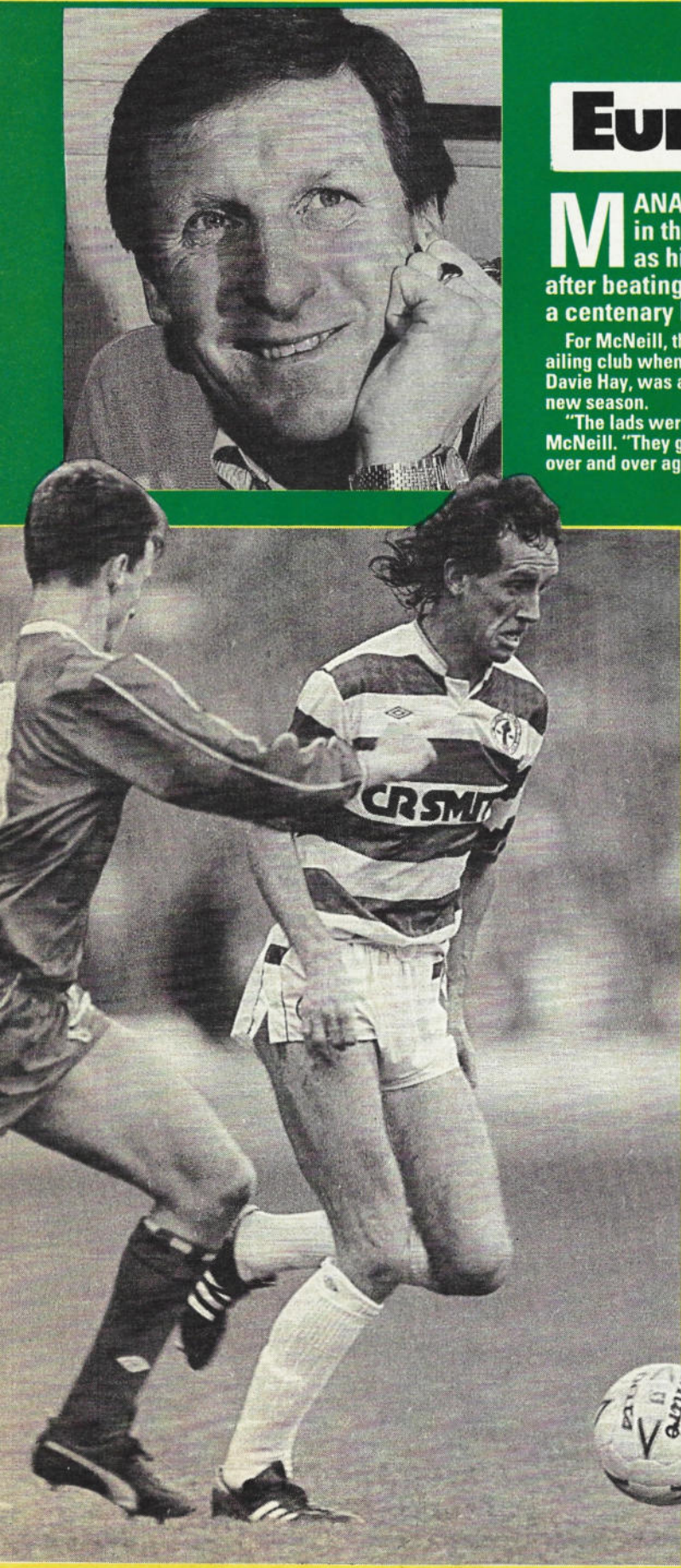
"I wouldn't dream to single out individuals. It was a team effort all the way. Each player did his bit."

Fight

"The spirit at the club is magnificent and we really do have a team that will fight for each other. That, of course, is very important."

McNeill also took time out from the celebrations to give credit to his assistant Tommy Craig.

"Like myself, Tommy had a point to prove," says McNeill. "He had been allowed to leave Hibs and might have thought there was no future for him. But his determination pulled him through."



DRUPLIE!

h League • Scottish Cup • Skol Cup



likeable Stark. "It has been too incredible to put into words. I just want to keep on playing for this side as long as my legs will carry me."

A dream season without a doubt. But McNeill underlined his own thoughts and burning desire to succeed by ordering all his players to Parkhead for a special meeting on the Wednesday after the Cup success.

During that meeting he stressed once more what he expects next season. Remember he captained Celtic to nine successive League Championships starting from 1966 through to 1975.

He wasn't so much hungry for success as a player as positively starving. He hasn't changed much as a manager.

Can anyone stop Celtic dominating Scottish football again next season?

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1) Swan. 4) Spackman. 7) Lillis. 10) Byrne. 12) Eel. 13) Chettle. 16) Adams. 18) Air. 19) Spink. 21) Lee. 22) Belle. 23) Trained. 26) Vue. 27) Revie. 30) Dorigo. 33) Drinkell. 34) Pads. DOWN: 2) walsh. 3) Nil. 4) Ski. 5) Key. 6) Ann. 8) Let (2nd letters). 9) See. 10) Black. 11) East End. 13) Chamber. 14) Enrol. 15) Lap. 17) Allen. 19) Steve. 20) Nor. 23) Ted. 24) Ayr. 25) Ewood. 28) Ear. 29) Ian. 31) Owl. 32) Imp.

QUIZ ANSWERS

1 AC Milan. 2 Russia. 3. Emilio Butragueno, Spain. 4. Morten. 5. David Kelly. 6. False. 7. Verona and Juventus. 8. Cyprus. 9. Sampdoria. 10. Yes in 1972. 11. Zubizarreta. 12. Moran. 13. 1986. 14. Five. 15. Thomas Berthold. 16. Italy. 17. PSV Eindhoven, European Cup. 18. Against Northern Ireland in Belfast. 19. Midfield. 20. No.

...And here's the Parkhead hit-list



Vasily Rats. He fancies a move to Scotland.

Billy McNeill will spend the close season scouring the transfer market at home and abroad in his relentless pursuit of putting together another Celtic side to conquer Europe.

DAVID KELLY, the Republic of Ireland striker who scored the goals that gave Walsall promotion to the Second Division, is a distinct possibility, although London giants Arsenal and Spurs have also taken a shine to the speedy youngster.

WILLIE FALCONER, Aberdeen's utility youngster who can play at left-back or as a striker, is another who might interest McNeill. Falconer's contract at Pittodrie will expire in the summer and Celtic may make a move when he becomes a free agent.

VASILY RATS, Dynamo Kiev's international left-back, has also been linked with Celtic. He fancies soccer in Scotland after playing against Celtic and Rangers in successive seasons in the European Cup. A fee of around £500,000 could entice the good comrade from the USSR.

Move

Celtic could also be in the market for another 'keeper. Allen McKnight, who took over from the injured Pat Bonner in the Cup Final, could be on the move.

Celtic have offered the Northern Ireland international a new four-year contract, but the prospect of reserve team football once Bonner is fit again doesn't appeal to McKnight.

GORDON MARSHALL, the highly-rated Falkirk 'keeper, may be the man to take over. He started his career with Rangers, but was allowed to leave on a free transfer. He drifted to East Fife and Falkirk paid £70,000 for him a year ago. Celtic could top that offer to take the tall, commanding No. 1 to Parkhead as understudy for Republic of Ireland international Bonner.

He deserves a lot of praise for his efforts."

No-one should overlook McNeill's enterprise in signing Billy Stark from Aberdeen during last season's summer of change at Parkhead. Celtic urgently required experience in the midfield to complement the guile of Paul McStay and grit of Peter Grant. Stark, who cost a mere £75,000, provided that and more.

His contribution to the Cup Final success was staggering. After coming on as a substitute he helped set up the equalising goal with a superb pass to the galloping Anton Rogan on the left. His cross eventually picked out Frank McAvennie and Celtic had grasped the lifeline.

And with a minute to go, it was Stark who drove in Joe Miller's low corner. The ball was deflected by David Narey and McAvennie pounced to fire the ball past Billy Thomson to take the Cup to Parkhead for a record 28th time.

"It's all been a dream," says the

TOP DOGS

The golden years could be on their way back to Molineux following a double triumph by Wolves.

A few weeks after wrapping up the Fourth Division Championship the Old Golds triumphed in their Wembley date with Burnley in the Sherpa Van Trophy, watched by a crowd of more than 80,000.

Jubilant Wolves boss Graham Turner reckoned: "Not even the World Cup Final could have produced more colour and atmosphere for us."

He also joked that the money generated from Wolves' march to Wembley would enable him to buy a new centre-forward, after Steve Bull's failure to add to his 52 goals in the Final.

Bull hit a post and Gary Bellamy hit the bar. But those

near misses didn't matter in the end after goals from Andy Mutch and Robbie Dennison won the Cup.

Mutch's 23rd minute header was, appropriately, his 23rd goal of the season, and Dennison - who a few weeks earlier had scored a screamer at Wembley against Everton in the Centenary Festival - repeated the feat with another long range shot shortly after half-time.



Wolves pack off with the Sherpa Van Trophy



Andy Mutch strikes to send Wolves on their way to a double triumph and then celebrates with fellow scorer Robbie Dennison after his club's 2-0 victory over Burnley at Wembley.

